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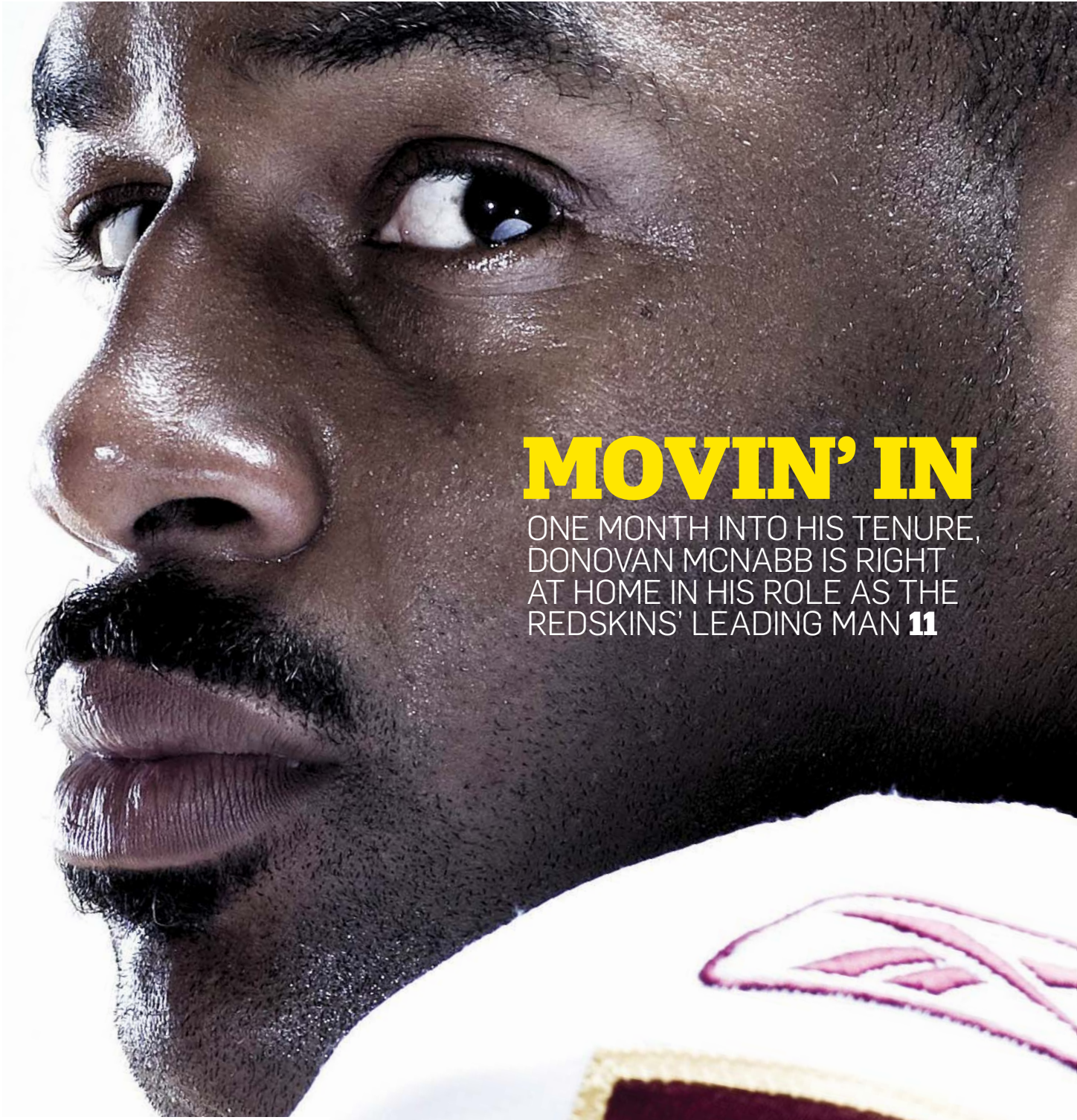
STILL NO FIX
Gulf oil slick hits
3.5 million gallons
with no end in sight **4**

DESPERATION
Orphanages swell
in Haiti as homeless
parents give up kids **8**

SO DRAMATIC
On 'Violet,'
the National
journeys from
despair to a
state of
hope **27**

am **66** **49** pm

FOR EXTENDED FORECAST, SEE PAGE 49



MOVIN' IN
ONE MONTH INTO HIS TENURE,
DONOVAN MCNABB IS RIGHT
AT HOME IN HIS ROLE AS THE
REDSKINS' LEADING MAN **11**



EYE OPENERS

Please, Call Me 'Lord' ...
'Mr. Christ' Is My Dad!

Police say a woman has been cited for running down a man named Lord Jesus Christ as he crossed a street in Northampton, Mass., on Tuesday. He was taken to the hospital for treatment of minor facial injuries. The driver was cited for failing to yield to a pedestrian in a crosswalk. (AP)

Teenage Boy Manages
To Be Gross in Novel Way

Four years ago, Land O' Lakes, Fla., high school freshman Ben Hedblom bet his Spanish teacher he'd wear the same pair of sneakers every day until graduation. The teacher promised to shave his head and eyebrows if Hedblom succeeded — which he has. The teacher left the school after Hedblom's freshman year but said he may shave his head via webcam. (AP)

The First Draft of
The Bill of Rights Did
Exactly the Same Thing!

A prank literally spelled out in the University of Utah student newspaper has prompted administrators to put a hold on nine students' transcripts. The seniors wrote goodbye columns for the Daily Utah Chronicle's April 28 edition. The first letter of each column is in larger type and, combined they spell out two words referring to genitalia. The editor says she's concerned the administration's response could violate freedom of the press. (AP)

The Big Picture



MOSCOW COMMEMORATED the 65th anniversary of the defeat of Nazi Germany with fireworks on Sunday. Victory Day is a major holiday in Russia and most other former Soviet republics, where many remember the war's privations and suffering or have heard about it from their parents and grandparents. (AP)

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Taliban Implicated in N.Y.C. Plot

Holder: Pakistan group helped direct failed car bombing

Washington

Saying they obtained new evidence, senior White House officials said Sunday that the Pakistani Taliban were behind the failed Times Square bombing.

The attempt marks the first time the group has been able to launch an attack on U.S. soil. And while U.S. officials have downplayed the threat — citing the bomb's lack of sophistication — the incident in Times Square and the Christmas Day airline bomber indicate growing strength by overseas terrorist groups linked to al-Qaeda even as the CIA says their operations are seriously degraded.

The finding also raises new questions about the United States' relationship with Pakistan, which is widely known to have al-Qaeda and other terrorist groups operating within its borders.

Concerning the Pakistani Taliban, Attorney General Eric Holder



WILLIAM B. PLOWMAN/ABC

Attorney General Eric Holder on Sunday said a Pakistani Taliban group was "intimately involved" in the attempt to set off a car bomb in New York's Times Square.

said: "We know that they helped facilitate it; we know that they helped direct it. And I suspect that we are going to come up with evidence which shows that they helped to finance it. They were intimate-

ly involved in this plot."

John Brennan, the president's homeland security and counterterrorism adviser, made similar remarks, linking the bomber to the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan.

Rights Revoked?

In the wake of the Times Square bombing plot, the Obama administration said on Sunday it wants to work with Congress on possible limitations of the constitutional rights afforded terrorism suspects — even for American citizens. Attorney General Eric Holder said changes may be needed to allow law enforcement more time to question suspected terrorists before they are told about their Miranda rights to a lawyer and to remain silent under interrogation. (AP)

Faisal Shahzad, a U.S. citizen of Pakistani descent, is thought to have spent five months in Pakistan before returning to the U.S. in February and preparing his attack.

Brennan rejected suggestions that the attempted bombing shows that terrorist groups overseas were gaining strength.

"They now are relegated to trying to do these unsophisticated attacks, showing that they have inept capabilities in training," he said. ANNE FLAHERTY (AP)

Ferry Is Idled After Pier Crash

New York

A Staten Island ferry that malfunctioned and smashed into a pier, hurting as many as 37 passengers, has been idled while federal and local officials try to figure out what went wrong.

The Andrew J. Barberi that hit a pier at St. George Ferry Terminal on Saturday was the same ferry involved in a 2003 wreck that killed 11 people. Capt. James DeSimone, the ferry's chief operating officer, said it was unlikely the mechanical failure had anything to do with damage suffered by the vessel in 2003 and that the ship had passed all the necessary inspections. (AP)

Hearsay

"You shouldn't have a crisis like this happening before noticing that [problem]."

— SEN. CHRIS DODD, DISCUSSING THE LACK OF SAFEGUARDS TO HALT THE KIND OF FREE FALL IN STOCKS SEEN THURSDAY ON WALL STREET.



ENDORSEMENTS

Sarah Palin has outraged some of her fans with an endorsement of former Hewlett-Packard executive Carly Fiorina in the GOP's U.S. Senate primary in California. Palin made the endorsement on

her Facebook page, saying Fiorina's experience running a corporation is sorely lacking in Washington. Scores of the nearly 1,800 comments on Palin's Facebook page pleaded for her to change her endorsement to another candidate favored by the tea party. (AP)

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Nation

Oil Spill at 3.5M Gallons

BP desperate to stop leaks after failure of containment box

Gulf of Mexico

A growing collection of crippled equipment littered the ocean floor Sunday near a ruptured oil well gushing crude into the Gulf of Mexico, the remnants of a massive rig that exploded weeks ago and the failed efforts since to cap the leak.

On the surface, a fleet of ships maneuvered to deploy the latest stopgap plans hatched by BP engineers desperate to keep the Deepwater Horizon disaster from becoming the nation's worst spill. An estimated 3.5 million gallons has risen from the depths since the April 20 explosion that killed 11, a pace that would surpass the total spilled in the Exxon Valdez disaster by Father's Day.

A day after icelike crystals clogged a four-story box that workers had lowered atop the main leak, crews using remote-controlled sub-



GERALD HERBERT/AP

Black waves filled with oil are seen Sunday in the Gulf of Mexico near Louisiana.

marines hauled the specially built structure more than a quarter-mile away and prepared other long-shot methods of stopping the flow.

Chief operating officer Doug Suttles said BP was thinking about putting a smaller containment dome over the massive leak, believing that it would be less vulnerable. The smaller dome could be ready to deploy Tuesday or Wednesday.

"We're going to pursue the first option that's available to us, and we think it'll be the top hat," Sutt-

les said.

As BP weighed its options on the mainland, waves of dark brown and black sludge crashed into a boat in the area above the leak. The fumes there were so intense that a crew member of the support ship Joe Griffin and an AP photographer on board had to wear respirators.

Meanwhile, thick blobs of tar began to wash up on Alabama's white sand beaches, yet another sign of the spill's rapid growth. (AP)



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STEVE C. WILSON/AP

Sen. Bob Bennett becomes emotional after his bid for re-election was blocked.

Utah GOP Turns Away Incumbent

Salt Lake City

A once-popular U.S. senator has fallen victim to a growing national conservative movement by suffering a stunning defeat at Utah's Republican convention.

Delegates voted Saturday to bar 76-year-old Sen. Bob Bennett from seeking a fourth term, making him the first congressional incumbent to be ousted this year. It demonstrates the challenges candidates face from the right in 2010.

Bennett was under fire for voting to bail out Wall Street, co-sponsoring a bipartisan bill mandating health insurance coverage and aggressively pursuing government funding for special projects in his state.

"The political atmosphere, obviously, has been toxic, and it's very clear that some of the votes that I have cast have added to the toxic environment," Bennett told reporters Saturday, choking back tears.

Bennett told The Associated Press he wouldn't rule out a write-in candidacy. **BROCK VERGAKIS (AP)**



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Weekend Review



1 CHICAGO

Train Director Commits Suicide on the Tracks



The executive director of the Chicago area's Metra commuter train service died of an apparent suicide Friday after he stepped into the path of one of his agency's trains, authorities said. Phil Pagano, 60, was on paid leave after Metra began investigating allegations that he received an unapproved \$56,000 bonus. (AP)

2 PHOENIX

Mexican Universities End Ariz. Student Swaps

Two Mexican universities on Friday halted student-exchange programs with the University of Arizona because of the state's tough new immigration law. The National Autonomous University of Mexico and the Autonomous University of San Luis Potosi said they feared their students would be harassed. (AP)

3 WASHINGTON

290K

The number of new jobs added in the U.S. in April, the biggest monthly employment gain in four years, the government said Friday. The unemployment rate rose from 9.7 percent to 9.9 percent as more people restarted their job searches.

4 BANGKOK

Clashes Kill Two Police

Hopes for an end to Thailand's political crisis diminished Saturday after a new eruption of violence that killed two policemen and wounded 13 people in double nighttime attacks. The attacks came after the so-called Red Shirt movement signaled that it was in general agreement with a government reconciliation plan and might soon end its protracted demonstrations that have shut down much of Bangkok. (AP)



EMILIO MORENO/AT/AP

5 Grounded — Again

Passengers wait for a flight at the airport in Barcelona, Spain, on Saturday. Hundreds of flights across Europe were delayed or canceled over the weekend due to a spreading cloud of ash from Iceland's Eyjafjallajökull volcano, which created international travel chaos two weeks ago.

6 CARACAS, VENEZUELA

Chavez Is Tops on Twitter

President Hugo Chavez became the most-followed user on Twitter in Venezuela less than two weeks after launching his account. "ChavezCandanga" had racked up more than 237,000 followers as of Saturday morning. (AP)

7 ROME

Cannes Film Irks Italians

Italy's culture minister said Saturday he will boycott this month's Cannes film festival to protest the showing of "Dracula," a movie that spoofs Premier Silvio Berlusconi and his relief efforts for survivors of Italy's 2009 quake in L'Aquila. (AP)

8 BEIJING

TV Footage Confirms N. Korean Leader Visited



Television footage aired on Friday was China's first official confirmation of a five-day visit to the country last week by North Korean leader Kim Jong Il. Analysts pronounced the visit a success, with Chinese state media reporting that Kim had pledged to return to six-nation nuclear disarmament talks that North Korea abandoned in 2008. South Korean experts also report Kim is undergoing kidney dialysis every two weeks. (AP)

In Brief



K.M. CHAUDHARY/AP

Pakistani activists protest the U.S. after suspected U.S. missiles killed 10 people.

DERA ISMAIL KHAN, PAKISTAN Suspected U.S. Missiles Kill 10 Near Afghanistan

Suspected U.S. missiles killed 10 people in a militant-controlled region close to the Afghan border Sunday. Two Pakistani intelligence officials said the two missiles hit the house of local tribesman Awal Gul in the Enzer Kasa village of the Datta Khel area of North Waziristan. (AP)

BERLIN

Merkel's Alliance Loses Election in a Key State

Voters in Germany's most populous state dealt Chancellor Angela Merkel a painful setback Sunday, erasing her government's majority in the upper house of parliament and curbing its power after a stumbling start and criticism over the Greek debt crisis. Merkel's center-right alliance was voted out of power in a state election in North Rhine-Westphalia, a region of 18 million people that includes Cologne and the industrial Ruhr area. (AP)

Uncertainty Stokes Fears in U.K.

After lengthy talks, two parties fail to arrange power-share

London

The two parties that could form Britain's next government held hours of closed-door talks Sunday without reaching a power-sharing deal, and there were fears that the political uncertainty could stoke market jitters when trading reopens Monday.

Conservatives and Liberal Democrats have a "mountain to climb" on issues including electoral reform, a senior member of the Liberal Democrats said. The Liberal Democrats want Britain to shed a system that gave them just 9 percent of the seats in Parliament after they won 23 percent of the popular vote, but if Conservatives give in, it could leave



LEFT: PETER PITAKIS/AP

British citizens wait outside the building where two parties met for talks on Sunday.

them at the smaller party's mercy in future elections.

The divide could offer an opening for Prime Minister Gordon Brown's Labour Party to stay in power through a coalition with the Liberal Democrats and some

smaller parties.

Liberal Democrat leader Nick Clegg met twice with Conservative leader David Cameron on Sunday night, after meeting Brown during the afternoon for what a Labour party spokesman said was

Inconclusive Result

David Cameron's right-of-center Conservatives won 306 of the 650 seats in the House of Commons in Thursday's national election but fell 20 votes short of a majority. For the first time since 1974, voting resulted in a "hung Parliament" — no party is able to take overall control. Cameron is hoping to woo the Liberal Democrats, who finished in third with 57 seats. Labour finished with 258. (AP)

an "amicable discussion."

A deal must be brokered soon to calm financial market anxieties about Britain's economic stability.

"We're very conscious of the need to provide the country with a new stable and legitimate government as soon as possible," said Conservative foreign affairs spokesman William Hague. SYLVIA HUI (AP)

EU Finance Ministers Discuss \$645B Defense Package for Euro

Brussels

European Union finance ministers were considering a \$645 billion defense package for the embattled euro, hoping it will suffice to keep markets from targeting the eurozone's weaker members, EU sources said late Sunday.

Rushing to finalize an agreement before Asian markets opened Monday, the ministers were discussing an aid plan that would have the EU Commission make \$75 billion available while countries from the 16-nation eurozone and the IMF would combine with a promise to back bilateral loans and guaran-

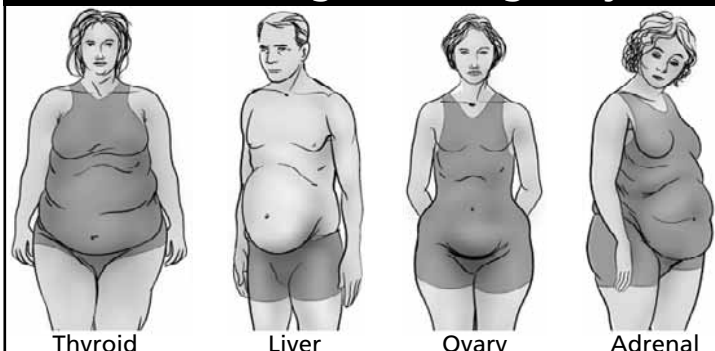
tees for up to \$570 billion.

Spanish Finance Minister Elena Salgado, speaking as she arrived for an emergency meeting of the European Union's finance ministers in Brussels, said they were determined to safeguard the currency used by 16 of the EU's 27 member states. The euro has come

under increasing pressure since the financial meltdown of one of its members, Greece.

France and Germany, the two largest members of the eurozone, agreed on measures to resolve the European financial crisis, according to a statement from French President Nicolas Sarkozy's office. (AP)

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World

Across Haiti, Orphanages Swell

More parents give up kids after quake left 1.3 million homeless

Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Weeks after the 1-year-old was found in a trash bin, his father showed up.

The baby wriggled in his cot, smiled and held up his arms. When the father didn't touch him, the baby started to cry.

The man left moments after he arrived, never to be seen again, according to a report written by a social worker at the Saint Catherine Hospital in the Cite Soleil slum,



A boy at an orphanage cries after hearing he must return to live with his family in a tent.

where the child was taken.

The earthquake that left at least 1.3 million of Haiti's 9 million peo-

ple homeless was the final push over the edge for families that could barely afford to feed their children

960

The number of abandoned or lost children who were separated from their families during Haiti's earthquake and are registered with the United Nations Children's Fund.

before. Now stuck in leaky tents with dwindling aid handouts, Haitian families are abandoning their children in the hope that rescue organizations will offer them a better life, aid workers say.

Even before the magnitude-7 quake, poor parents left children at orphanages, where they would at least receive one meal a day. Now,

orphanage workers say their facilities are swelling with children who are not orphans.

Nadine Jean-Baptiste, a 35-year-old with AIDS, recently left her 2-year-old, Christine, at an orphanage down the street from the storage shed where she now lives.

Before the Jan. 12 quake, she was barely able to pay for her medication and look after her daughter. Then, her husband, a cook, was buried in the restaurant where he worked.

With him gone and her house destroyed, she is weighing a terrible decision: An American couple has expressed interest in adopting Christine. The sick mother must decide whether to sign over her child, a chubby little girl with pigtails. "I love my child. Giving her away is not my wish," she said. "But I have nothing to feed her." **RUKMINI CALLIMACHI (AP)**

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Coal Mine Blasts Kill 12 in Russia

Rescuers, miners
among 83 trapped
after two explosions

Moscow

Rescue workers scrambled to save 83 people trapped in Russia's largest underground coal mine after two explosions killed at least 12 people and injured dozens more, officials said. Among those still trapped early Monday were rescue workers who had entered the Siberian mine after the first blast.

A high level of methane gas after Sunday's second, more powerful blast raised fears of further

explosions and prevented more rescuers from going into the mine for the rest of the day.

Only early Monday was the first rescue team sent down to try to bring out five miners whose location had been established, said Valery Korchagin, a spokesman for the Emergency Ministry. It was not clear, however, whether the miners were still alive, he said.

The second explosion destroyed the main air shaft and all of the mine's above-ground structures, the governor of the Siberian region of Kemerovo told Prime Minister Vladimir Putin during a meeting with emergency officials, according to a government transcript.



A rescuer leaves the Rapsadskaya mine after two blasts tore through it Sunday.

More than 500 emergency workers from across the country struggled throughout the day to ventilate the mine and rebuild mine shafts so the search for those trapped could resume, Korchagin said by telephone from Kemerovo, about 2,000 miles east of Moscow.

By late Sunday, it was still too dangerous to enter the mine because of high levels of methane gas, said Emergency Minister Sergei Shoigu, who flew to the scene from Moscow to take charge of the operation. "Now we have to do everything possible to avoid a third explosion," the state news agency RIA Novosti quoted him as telling miners' families. LYNN BERRY (AP)

Mideast Talks 'Wide-Ranging'

Jerusalem

The U.S. praised Israelis and Palestinians for pledging modest steps to create a positive atmosphere for their first peace contacts in more than a year, after the initial round of indirect talks ended Sunday.

Mideast envoy George Mitchell left for home after multiple meetings with Israelis and Palestinians.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Philip Crowley said the talks were "serious and wide-ranging." Israel committed to not building in a disputed east Jerusalem housing project, and the Palestinians said they would work against incitement. (AP)

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Leading Man

Donovan McNabb quickly displays his commanding presence in Washington

The Redskins

After six days of minicamp drills, Donovan McNabb is the undisputed leader of the Washington Redskins. It's a fast ascension, in part due to his position — the quarterback has been the putative team leader since Frank Merriwell was in short pants — and in part due to his status as a 33-year-old veteran of seven postseasons playing for a rebuilding team.

McNabb has moved to town. He lifts weights regularly at Redskins Park. He takes his receivers to lunch, and he's invited them to train with him in Arizona under next month's mandatory minicamp and the opening of training camp. But he has also taken the reins in ways Merriwell could never have imagined.

He keeps in contact, at least electronically, with Albert Haynesworth, who has refused to work out with the team or attend voluntary functions. After McNabb was traded to Washington, he called his predecessor, Jason Campbell, which

"IT'S SO WILD WHAT PEOPLE WILL GET TO TALKING WHEN YOU'RE NOT THERE. BUT WHEN YOU'RE THERE, EVERYBODY LOVES YOU."

— DONOVAN MCNABB, TAKING THE HIGH ROAD WHEN ASKED ABOUT EAGLES WR DESEAN JACKSON'S COMMENTS THAT PHILLY DIDN'T LOSE ANYTHING WHEN MCNABB WAS TRADED.

couldn't have been easy, since his arrival signaled Campbell's demotion. When rumors began swirling last month that McNabb was pushing the Redskins to sign former Philadelphia teammate Terrell Owens, McNabb was quick to get in touch with wide receiver Devin Thomas to assure him the stories weren't true. After just 28 days with the Redskins, McNabb seems to have the entire roster on speed dial.

"When those rumors came out, he hit me," Thomas said on Saturday during Washington's



Show of Support

Friending Haynesworth

While coach Mike Shanahan has said he has not spoken to disgruntled defensive tackle Albert Haynesworth — the most notable no-show at this weekend's minicamp — recently, McNabb has made establishing an electronic friendship with Haynesworth a priority. If Haynesworth is still a Redskin on June 16, he'll come to mandatory camp knowing he has at least one supporter on the field. "It's important that as a team everyone kind of stays together," McNabb said. "He's a part of this team. ... We know the business aspect of things. We've all been through it. I've always tried to provide confidence for him to let him know we're behind him." (TWP)



second voluntary minicamp under new coach Mike Shanahan. "He was one of the first people to text me just telling me there's a whole bunch of hoopla and not to worry about it and he's happy with what we have and we're going to make do with what we have. He's just an up-front guy. He doesn't put up a front for anybody."

Campbell worked out in the offseason with his receivers, and McNabb is doing the same. He's also doing some socializing.

"Sometimes we go to lunch and just kind of get together, get to know each other away from the game," McNabb said. "That builds a lot of trust and a big bond for certain situations. These guys are willing to learn and willing to get better, and I'm doing the same myself, so that helps in so many ways."

Do the receivers pay?

"We'll have Trent [Williams, the team's No. 1 draft pick] tag along and then get some of that money," he said. "It's not really about paying ... but I would like for them to pay."

Thomas said the new quarterback's leadership role seems to come naturally to him. "That's something he's accustomed to doing, being a leader," Thomas said. "We definitely needed that vibe, especially at the quarterback position from a guy like Donovan who's proven and can really inspire a lot of people. He definitely just came here and just did that naturally, and he's really picking up a lot of guys."

TRACEE HAMILTON (THE WASHINGTON POST)

A Thrifty Stay Among the Locals

Summer rentals are often cheaper than rooming at a hotel

Personal Finance

Temperatures are rising, the school year is ending, and vacations are on the brain.

If you and your family want to go away for more than a few days, renting a beach house or lakeside cabin can cost about half as much as a hotel stay. That means more cash to spend having fun.

Rentals are being reserved at a faster clip than just a year ago, but it's not too late to plan this summer's family getaway.

"There's plenty of time," said Maria Kirk, the owner of Shore-SummerRentals.com, a company that matches the owners of 1,400 properties in seven Eastern states with renters.

"If they're really picky, they need to get started now," she says. "If they want a deal, they may want to wait because there's always going to be something available."



Here are some tips on finding an inexpensive summer rental.

Be Flexible on Location

As it gets closer to your vacation date, you may have to make some compromises if you want to get a deal, said Alexis de Belly, vice president of U.S. brands for Homeaway, which lists about 400,000 rental properties around the globe.

"If you can book at the begin-

ning or end of the season, typically you'll find more availability at better prices," he said.

Meanwhile, consider putting a few miles between your rental and your vacation activities. Opting for a rental a few miles away from the hottest spots can cut costs.

"If you look a little further away from the main attraction, the prices go down quite dramatically," de Belly said.

Stay for a Few Days

Thanks to the recession, homeowners who once rented properties only for full weeks are increasingly willing to book shorter stays, even just a couple days. But renter beware: Not everyone will be receptive to an offer for a partial-week rental.

Dial Local for Help

There are scores of private companies that can help you connect with rentals, and many local tourism Web sites will show or link to what's available in a community.

But old-fashioned telephone research sometimes can get you into the ideal property. Workers in the county's information center know their community and can explain what properties might work best.

Keep Checking

The direct-rental business is still growing, which means more properties become available every month. It's also worth checking for last-minute cancellations.

ASHLEY M. HEHER (AP)

DISCUSSIONS

Air Travel

Shareholders and regulators haven't approved United's \$3 billion dollar acquisition of Continental, but industry observers are already anticipating the deal's impact. Here's a look at how the proposed merger could affect fliers.

Ticket increases.

Fares on the new airline are not likely to skyrocket, but don't be surprised if average fares rise 5 to 7 percent. The impact will be felt mostly by business travelers, who make up the bulk of the business on both airlines.

Frequent-flier miles.

Continental's frequent-flier miles have no expiration date but United's expire in 18 months. Travelers with miles accumulated on both airlines will probably be able to combine them.

Seamless flying.

Perhaps the biggest perk from the merger will be the ability to fly more without switching airlines. Flights to China, Europe and Latin America may become easier as passengers are allowed to stay on a United jet. (AP)

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D.C. to Establish New Crosswalk In Chinatown

Washington

Pedestrians are getting a little more freedom at a busy Washington intersection. The city is establishing a "Barnes Dance" at 7th and H streets NW near the Verizon Center.

Beginning Wednesday, vehicle traffic will stop completely once during every cycle. Pedestrians can then cross in any direction, including diagonally. The pedestrians-only interval will last 29 seconds,

It's called a Barnes Dance after Henry Barnes, a traffic engineer who established many such crosswalks in Denver. (AP)

DCPS Seeks 13 Senior Mangers

Washington

D.C. Schools Chancellor Michelle Rhee is looking to hire more than a dozen senior managers to oversee the city's public schools.

The D.C. school system Web site posted openings for 13 new "instructional superintendents" last week. Annual salaries run more than \$100,000 for those positions.

Their duties include directly supervising school principals and overseeing academic performance.

The move comes after Rhee fired more than 250 teachers earlier in the school year. (AP)

Mother's Day at the Memorial



LINDA DAVIDSON/TWP

HELEN HASTY OF WASHINGTON places Mother's Day cards at the base of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial after the 11th annual Mother's Day ceremony Sunday. The ceremony honors mothers whose children have served or are serving in the armed forces, and mothers who have served in the military.

Hearsay



"We are trying to make sure that this does not have an impact on the entire transportation grid."

— **SEAN CONNAUGHTON**, VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION SECRETARY, ON EFFORTS TO KEEP TRAFFIC FLOWING DURING AND AFTER THE FEDERAL BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSINGS PLAN IS CARRIED OUT IN FORT BELVOIR AND ALEXANDRIA.

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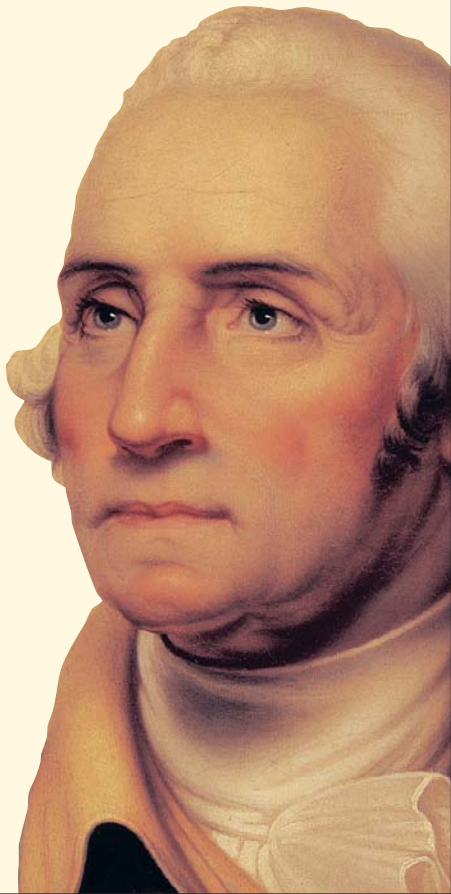
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Local



Vietnam veteran Doug Sterner created a central database of military medal winners.

Harmless Medals
Or Criminal Fakes?

Law against phony
military decorations
challenged in court

Alexandria

It certainly looked real. It had the right font, right seal. It was even signed by the secretary of the Navy.

But Doug Sterner, self-appointed guardian of the nation's military decorations, immediately suspected there was something fishy about the Marine's citation for the Navy Cross, one of the military's most prestigious awards.

Sterner noticed that the citation was supposedly signed in 1968 by Navy Secretary Paul H. Nitze. But Nitze was secretary only until 1967.

Sterner, who lives in Alexandria, knew that in his obsessive quest to compile a database of recipients of the military's top decorations, he had found yet another phony. This time, the man he outed was Rich-

ard Thibodeau, who for years had proudly spun tales of heroism, and even had his awards hung in a local veterans museum.

Since 2006, thanks to a federal law Sterner helped craft, claiming an unearned military decoration has been a federal offense.

But now the law is being challenged in court by free speech advocates who say that lying about military valor may be shameful but should not be criminal. The First Amendment's guarantee of free speech means that if burning the flag is legal, then wearing unearned medals should be, too, critics say.

"[People] lie about their age, their sexual orientation, their marital status," said Jonathan Libby, a California public defender whose client is challenging the law. "What would prevent Congress from outlawing any of that?"

Making self-aggrandizement a crime, they say, violates the very notion of freedom American service members fight for. **CHRISTIAN DAVENPORT (THE WASHINGTON POST)**

The Lotteries

Sunday, May 9

Virginia

Mid-day Pick 3 0-2-1
Mid-day Pick 4 1-8-7-4
Mid-day Cash 5 10-20-23-24-33

Maryland

Mid-day Pick 3 9-2-2
Mid-day Pick 4 9-8-8-1

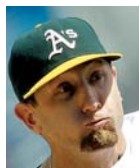
District

Mid-day Lucky Numbers 9-0-8
Mid-day DC 4 5-2-4-8
D.C. Five (Sun.) 2-5-3-2-7

All winning numbers are official only when validated at a claims location. Drawings that occur after Express' deadline will be published two days later.

MLB Recap

Top Dogs

Dallas Braden
P, A's

A perfect game is impressive. A perfect game against the Rays is even better.

Yadier Molina, C, Cardinals

Molina drove in three runs as St. Louis batted around the order twice in an 11-4 win against Pittsburgh.

Alex Rios, CF, White Sox

Rios did everything he could to keep Chicago in the game, hitting a home run with four hits total and scoring three runs in a 9-7 loss to Toronto.

Scoreboard

Phillies 5, Braves 3

Indians 7, Tigers 4

Reds 5, Cubs 3

Cardinals 11, Pirates 4

Twins 6, Orioles 0

Nationals 3, Marlins 2

Blue Jays 9, White Sox 7

Astros 4, Padres 3 (11)

Giants 6, Mets 5

A's 4, Rays 0

Rangers 6, Royals 4

Brewers 6, Diamondbacks 1

Late game results: [washingtonpost.com](http://www.washingtonpost.com)

Hearsay

"As a reliever ... you're really not wanting to get wins; you're wanting to get holds."

—NATS RELIEVER TYLER CLIPPARD, on his NL-best six wins this season.

By the Numbers

.173

The collective batting average of the Seattle Mariners during an eight-game losing streak. The Mariners fired hitting coach Alan Cockrell Sunday to spark their dormant offense.

Nationals Win Another Close One

Willingham's homer makes the difference in defeat of Marlins

The Nationals

Facing the Florida Marlins, a team they once couldn't beat, the Washington Nationals on Sunday again made all the plays necessary to win a close game, something they once couldn't do.

In every way, the Nationals have separated themselves from the maladies of the past two seasons, a fact reinforced Sunday afternoon during the team's 3-2 victory over the Marlins before 21,299 at Nationals Park. Josh Willingham blasted a game-winning home run in the eighth inning, lifting the Nationals to 17-14, three games above .500, their season's high-water mark.

The Nationals won for the fourth time in six games and secured their sixth series victory, something they didn't accomplish last season until July 22.

After losing a late-inning lead for the second-straight day, the Nationals won on Willingham's blast to left field off Clay Hensley, preserving another dominant start by Livan Hernandez, who allowed one earned run in seven innings. It also helped Matt Capps earn his 13th save in 14 chances with a per-



Nationals slugger Josh Willingham, right, rounds the bases after his eighth-inning home run in Washington's win on Sunday.



Dream Season Rolls On

Livan Hernandez continued his remarkable season, allowing one earned run in seven innings in the Nationals' 3-2 victory over the Marlins on Sunday. He struck out three batters, fooling Florida's slugging lineup with precise control and a devilish mix of pitches.

Hernandez's sinker hovers in the mid-80s, but he can summon something extra when he needs it. On his 110th and 111th pitches, Hernandez struck out pinch-hitting Cameron Maybin on 88 and 87 mph fastballs. (TWP)

fect ninth inning.

The Marlins tied the score in the eighth, costing Hernandez a chance

at his fifth win. Untouchable for most of this season, Tyler Clippard occupied the mound for a crucial run for

the second-straight day. After Sean Burnett gave up a leadoff single in the eighth, Clippard entered and allowed a single and a walk, loading the bases with no outs.

Clippard got ahead of Jorge Cantu 0-2, but Cantu crunched a sacrifice fly to left, and the Marlins had knotted the game at two. Clippard escaped the inning by striking out Dan Uggla and inducing a groundout by John Baker. So when Willingham's home run provided the difference, Clippard notched his league-leading sixth win.

ADAM KILGORE (THE WASHINGTON POST)

Oakland's Braden Is Simply Perfect Against Red-Hot Tampa Bay

Baseball

Dallas Braden pitched the Athletics' first perfect game in 42 years and just the second in franchise history, dazzling against the majors' hottest team in a 4-0 victory over the Tampa Bay Rays on Sunday.

Braden threw his arms in the air after Gabe Kapler grounded out to shortstop for the final out.

The closest the Rays got to a hit was Jason Bartlett's liner to third leading off the game. Evan Longoria tried to bunt against Braden leading off the fifth, drawing boos from the small crowd.

It was the majors' first perfect game since Mark Buehrle did it for the White Sox against the Rays on July 23 and the second no-hitter this season after Colorado's Ubal-



Braden, right, celebrates with his team.

do Jimenez pulled it off against the Braves in Atlanta on April 17.

Braden pitched the A's first perfect game since Hall of Famer Jim "Catfish" Hunter's gem on May 8, 1968, against the Minnesota Twins. Only 6,298 were there to witness it.

Sunday's crowd at the Coliseum wasn't much better: 12,228.

JANIE MCCAULEY (AP)

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POST HUNT

The Post Hunt returns!

On June 6 The Washington Post Magazine will kick off another insanely popular Post Hunt. The Post Hunt is a huge mutant brainteaser — a kind of urban safari, where you'll be hunting for the answers to wacky puzzles woven into the landscape of downtown Washington. If it's anything like the past two years, we'll all be in for a wild ride — or at least, a weird afternoon!

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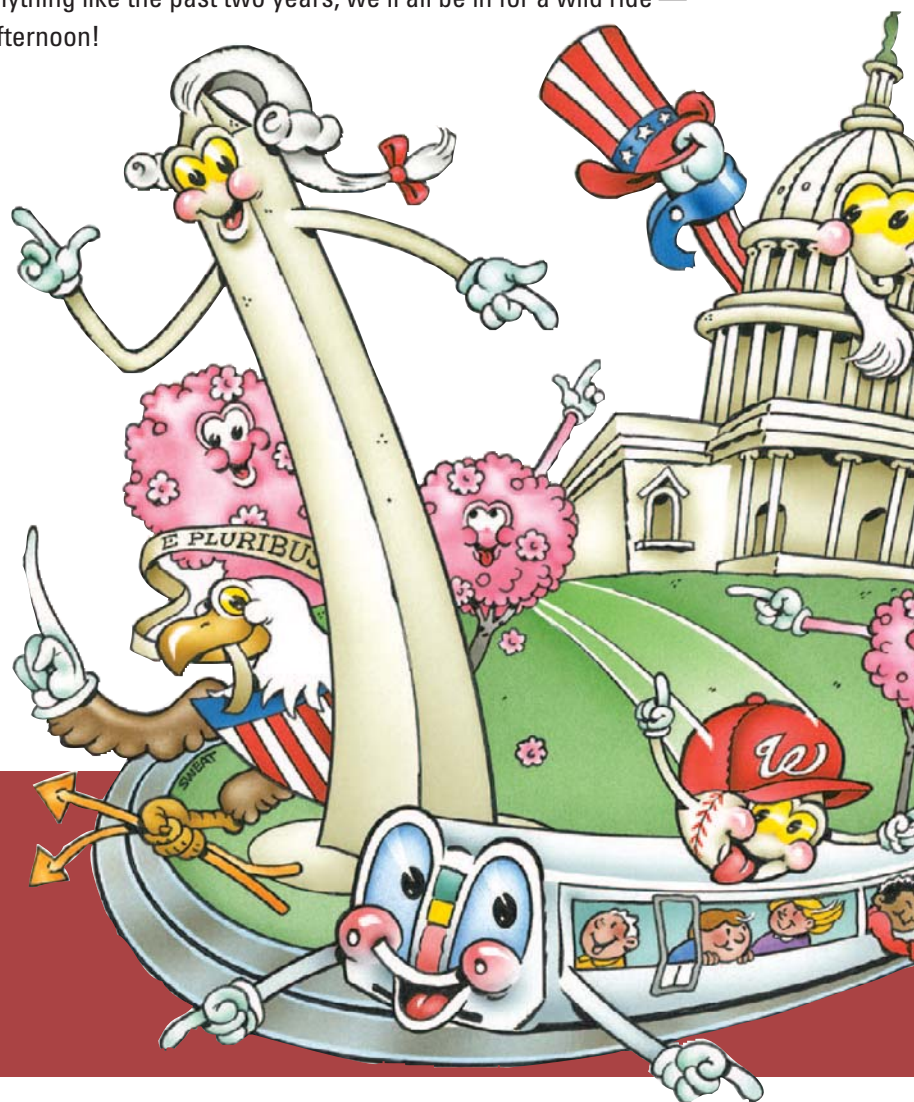
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If you don't get it, you don't get it.

Ailing Woods Pulls Out of TPC

Tiger fears ongoing neck pain may be due to a bulging disk

Golf

Dressed in his Sunday red shirt, Tiger Woods bowed his head and sat in silence in front of his locker.

He was supposed to be on the ninth hole at the Players Championship. In another stunning twist for someone whose life used to be so predictable, Woods withdrew suddenly with neck pain that he fears might be a bulging disk. He plans to have an MRI next week.

Woods was so frustrated that he slammed his golf shoe to the floor while taking questions from three reporters. "I've been playing through it," Woods said of pain he first felt before the Masters. "I can't



Tiger Woods withdrew from the Players Championship on the seventh hole Sunday.

play through it anymore."

Woods said he did not know what caused the injury, only that "playing doesn't help it." He took 10 questions before going into a phys-

ical therapy trailer for 37 minutes and leaving the TPC Sawgrass. The only time he has ever mentioned his neck was during his news conference last month at the Masters.

Woods was taken to the hospital Nov. 27 after driving his SUV over a fire hydrant and into a tree, the infamous accident that set off shocking revelations of extramarital affairs that led to his five-month break from golf. When asked at Augusta what injuries had sent him to the hospital, Woods said, "I had a busted-up lip and a pretty sore neck, and that was it."

He didn't mention the pain when he missed the cut last week at Quail Hollow. But it something was obvious wrong Sunday on the seventh hole at Sawgrass. After hitting his tee shot well right, Woods called for an official. He hit his second shot and grimaced, then walked to the middle of the fairway, shook hands with playing partner Jason Bohn and left in a golf cart. Fans gave him a warm ovation, with one man shouting, "Hurry back, Tiger." (AP)



Chelsea celebrates after Sunday's win.

Chelsea Wins Premier League

Soccer

Chelsea regained the Premier League title from Manchester United with an 8-0 victory over Wigan on Sunday.

Even though United finished the year with a 4-0 win over Stoke at Old Trafford, the big celebrations were at Stamford Bridge. It is Chelsea's third league title in six years, and it prevented United from becoming the first team to win the English title four years in a row. (AP)

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Injured Wrestler Takes Big Steps

College Wrestling

With the neck brace partially hidden by the collar of his bright blue graduation gown, Buffalo wrestler Dan Bishop wondered why every college graduate across the country shouldn't deserve this type of attention.

That's when Bishop was reminded not everyone has endured a life-threatening trauma that's turned into a life-altering experience over the past two months. The senior went from being paralyzed from the neck down, after sustaining a severe spinal cord injury during a wrestling meet, to being able to walk on his own.

"Well, I wouldn't change anything, really," Bishop said Sunday. "It's a blessing, honestly. It's a bless-



Dan Bishop crossed the carpet to pick up his diploma at Buffalo on Sunday.

ing in disguise. It's a new path in my life and a better one."

The sociology major took several memorable steps down that path by crossing the red carpet at the school's commencement ceremony without the aid of a wheelchair or walker — as he vowed to do shortly after the injury. (AP)

Rondo Leads Celtics Past Cavaliers



BOSTON'S RAJON RONDO keeps the ball inbound in the Celtics' 97-87 win over the Cleveland Cavaliers Sunday. Rondo had 29 points, 18 rebounds and 13 assists as Boston evened the Eastern Conference semifinals at two games each.

TV Lineup

NATIONALS (7 P.M., MASN) The Nationals head to the Big Apple to begin a series against the improved New York Mets.

BASEBALL (7 P.M., ESPN) The red-hot New York Yankees take on the Detroit Tigers.

NBA PLAYOFFS (8 P.M. 10:30 P.M., TNT) Two conference semifinals could be decided when the Orlando Magic shoots to sweep the over-matched Atlanta Hawks, and the Los Angeles Lakers aim to do the same to the Utah Jazz.

NHL PLAYOFFS (7 P.M., VERSUS) The Pittsburgh Penguins can knock out the Montreal Canadiens with a win in Game 6 of the Eastern Conference semifinals.

MORE FIGHT



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Animal Instincts Welcome At Work

Pets on the job create a relaxed environment

Colleagues

Like many nonprofit workers, Michelle Foncannon has had her share of disheartening days at the office. As a campaign assistant for the puppy mills project at the Humane Society of the United States, the 25-year-old is often faced with difficult animal cruelty cases. But rather than depending on happy hour beers to dull the disappointment, she counts on comfort from her cube mate. In her case, that means a furry hug from Maxwell, her 4-year-old cocker spaniel-poodle mix.

"With the nature of our work, it's good to have a happy dog running around," says Foncannon, who lives in Columbia, Md. "He's such a bundle of happy energy — he boosts morale." Though Max's therapeutic role is a welcome perk, the pup isn't at the office on official business. Rather, he's just one of many four-legged friends who commute with their owners to the Humane Society's headquarters each day.

The Humane Society may seem like an obvious workplace to welcome pets, but the Gaithersburg-based organization is

CONTINUED ON E2



REGAN KIRILLIS

Gabriel Piris hugs Stella at St. Columba's Nursery School in Tenleytown. The border collie and another dog spend their days hanging out with the tots.

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EXPERTISE APPLIED

Little Helpers

Continued from page E1

just one in a pack of Fido-friendly employers across the Washington region.

According to a survey by the Connecticut-based American Pet Products Manufacturers Association (Americanpetproducts.org), more than 50 million Americans think having pets in the workplace leads to a more creative, amiable environment and decreased absenteeism. The APPMA study also found 46 million people who bring their pets to the office work longer hours. “You get a more content, more focused workforce,” explains APPMA President Bob Vetere. “They’re not worried about getting home to let the dog out.”

At Zcomm (Zpr.com) in Bethes-



Miles Pierre reaches out to pet border collie Stella. Nursery director Julia Berry says animals teach kids how to “read emotions.”

REGAN KIRILLIS

da, that added convenience led to an informal pet policy. The small marketing company organizes occasional all-office pet days and also participates in the annual Take Your Dog to Work Day, a national event sponsored by Pet Sitters International (set to take place June 25 this year). And if an employee needs to bring in his or her pet on another day for any reason, that’s allowed, too, provided he or she gets permission first. Both pet parents and their pet-less colleagues delight in the policy.

“Having dogs around lifts my mood,” says Paula Malozowski, 28, the manager of radio promotions at Zcomm. “I consider it a really nice perk — even though I don’t have a pet, I like working for a company that understands peo-

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ple are happier when pets are in the office.”

On dog days at Zcomm, you’ll find plenty of wagging tails, too. “Dogs and cats are social animals. For them, it’s kind of like going to Disneyland for a day,” Vetere says. When the initial thrill wears off, though (for, ahem, colleagues of both the two- and four-legged persuasions), the office settles down to business as usual. “Once they get into the routine of the day, they just hang out and mellow, curl up with different people and check the trash cans for food,” says Joan

“When dogs walk into a room, your blood pressure tends to lower — it has a calming effect on your system.”

Carrese Sineni, 48, the executive vice president at Zcomm, who frequently brings her two Weimaraners to work.

After all, pets are creatures of habit just like their human counterparts. The Humane Society thinks establishing routines is an essential element of a successful pet policy, requiring a minimum commitment of three days a week for employees who wish to bring their dogs to work. They also implement doggie gates on cubicles and strict dog-free zones. “The dogs fade into the fabric,” says Jennifer Fearing, who led the pet initiative at the Humane Society three years ago and wrote a book on the process called “Dogs at Work: A Practical Guide to Creating Dog-Friendly Workplaces” (\$22, Humane Society Press). “If you went to one of our offices, you would have no sense of how many dogs are there. You can’t hear them, and the people who work there are used to them being there. It’s a very calm environment. The goal is not to have a dog park.”

While dogs’ being neither seen nor heard might be ideal for an office setting, some workplaces that host dogs allow for an all-



Michelle Foncannon brings her dog, Max, a cocker spaniel-poodle mix, to work with her every day at the Humane Society.

paws-on-deck approach. Personal trainer George Kassouf, 53, runs a fitness studio on the first level of his Shaw rowhouse. His assistants are Buddy, a 63-pound hound mix, and Logan, a 40-pound Labrador retriever mix. Though the pooches laze on their dog beds for the duration of most sessions, they offer encouragement, too, like the occasional face lick while clients stretch on the floor post-workout.

“One client told me, ‘The only reason I like training with you is your dogs,’” Kassouf laughs. “It makes the whole experience a little more personal. When dogs walk into a room, your blood pressure tends to lower — it has a calming effect on your system.”

That soothing power canine companions can provide is fundamental to the ministries at St. Columba’s Church (Columba.org) in Tenleytown, where the staff counts four dogs among its ranks. Two pooches — a standard poodle and border collie — help out at St. Columba’s Nursery School.

“Having animals in a program like ours — with young children — teaches so much about how to read the emotions of other living creatures, including their friends, by watching their bodies and seeing how they express themselves non-verbally,” explains nursery director Julia Berry, 55, who says she recently looked out her office window to see a few kids had buried Stella, her border collie, shoulder-deep in the sandbox. Stella patiently sat still “like a sphinx.”

Indeed, a pet’s good-natured appeal can offer social capital, according to Fearing. She says co-workers’ chatting about pets often leads to new professional synergies that never would have been made without a cuddly icebreaker.

And at the end of the day, a pet’s loyalty and patience are contagious, no matter the venue. “Dogs really have a way to pick up on tension,” Fearing says. “In this era of layoffs and budgets, work can be stressful. Being able to reach down and pet your dog, or being able to be around dogs, has a tremendous calming, softening effect on the workplace.” KATIE KNOROVSKY

Mastering the Best-Laid Party Plans

Learn how to throw a successful bash from a New York pro

If we learned anything from the infamous White House gatecrashers, it's to never underestimate the worth of a planner with his or her finger on the party's pulse. Indeed, the role of an event planner is that of soiree CEO, charged with shepherding the shindig from conception to cleanup — and, most importantly, smoothing out any potential PR hiccups along the way.

"You're not hosting the party; you're producing the party," says

Laura Lachman, a Manhattan-based event planner for luxury clients such as Gucci, Louis Vuitton and Vogue. Learn the difference — and whether you have what it takes to go from office party committee to professional planner — at her monthlong Media Bistro online course, "Intro to Event Planning."

THE BASICS:

Designed to be interactive, the class features lectures posted by Lachman, plus weekly assignments and online chats with plenty of her feedback (plus transcripts if



you can't make the virtual meet-up). The webinar details the myriad challenges an event planner might face — charity galas, consumer product launches and festivals, to name a few. "If you follow my production documents, which list every element involved and put it all into writing, it's pretty fool-proof," Lachman says.

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN:

Students explore the essential elements of memorable events, including vendors, promotion, sponsorships, budgets, guest lists, timelines and more. Lachman sprinkles her



COURTESY LAURA LACHMAN

Laura Lachman, a Manhattan-based event planner, will impart her wisdom.

lectures with insider tips on the do's and don'ts, using case studies on real affairs both grand and gaffe-filled. "More than anything, you need to be able to plan in advance and forecast anything that could go wrong," Lachman says. "A successful event planner is strategic, calm under pressure and a multitasker."

WHAT'S THE DEAL?

"Intro to Event Planning" is a four-week online course offered by Media Bistro, featuring live Web chats Mondays from 9 to 10 p.m. May 17 through June 21. The class costs \$350. Register online at mediabistro.com. KATIE KNOROVSKY



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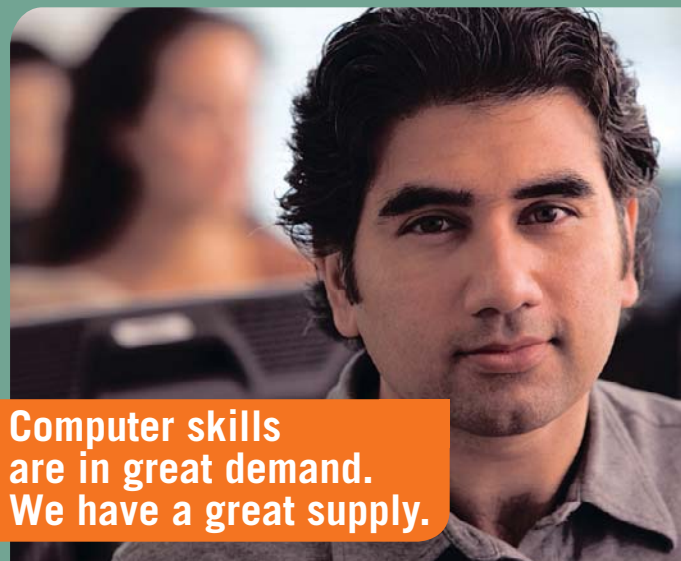
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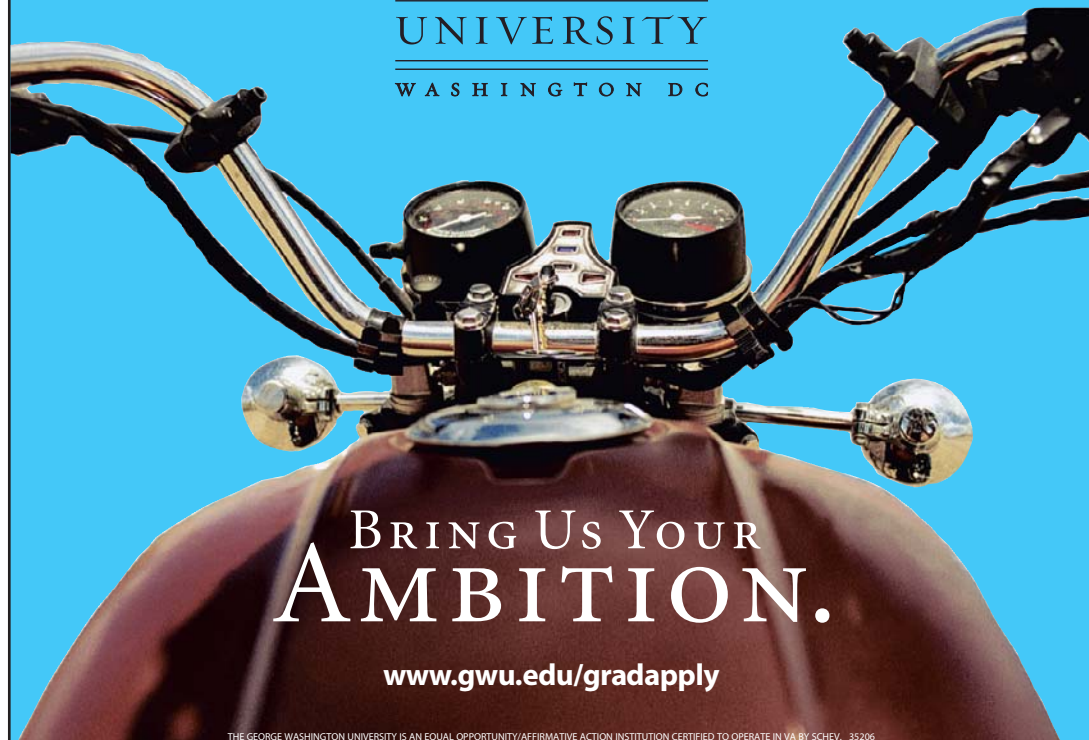
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A Dream for Kids Come True

Steal This Job

Andrew Horn, 23

JOB: Executive director, Dreams for Kids D.C., a volunteer-based nonprofit that offers leadership and mentorship programs to underprivileged children.

SALARY: \$35,000 – \$40,000 a year.

EDUCATION: Bachelor's in business from Virginia Tech.

WHAT HE DOES: "My role is literally everything," says Horn, who founded the D.C. branch of the Chicago-based charity. He takes care of fundraising, programming, grant writing and office duties and, despite being D.C.'s lone employee, spends a lot of time managing people: "I'm staffing 20 to 30 volunteers this summer." These

"Dream Leaders" inspire underprivileged and disabled children to create and pursue projects that have social impact. "This kid Vander is writing a rap song," Horn says. "We're going to enable people to buy the song, and all the money he raises is for children who do not have access to wheelchairs."

WOULD YOU WANT THIS JOB?

"I had a really good year working as an executive recruiter, but I needed something more fulfilling," Horn says. "I started doing work in homeless shelters, and I saw how bad kids had it there. Now I get to empower these

luck." "I was getting ready to work in restaurants between school. My mom [author Sam Horn] read a book by [Dreams for Kids founder] Tom Tuohy and suggested I give them a call." Horn flew to Chicago, where he started interning and planning events for the organization. His first project: putting together a basketball clinic in San Diego featuring three of the city's best wheelchair basketball teams, 120 youth leaders and many eager kids from urban neighborhoods of Chicago. After college, Horn decided to reconnect with Dreams for Kids and launched the D.C. office. He initially kept his day job as a re-

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Andrew Horn works with intern Leanna Medina at the Dreams for Kids office in D.C.

kids, and I finally have a thing that I really care about." If you love to create and plan events, running a charity such as Dreams for Kids allows for lots of imagination. "There really is no blueprint," Horn says. "We have autonomy to add our own flair. If you're an athlete, you can create a marathon. One event coming up is a baseball clinic with the Nationals." When starting a nonprofit, however, don't expect anything to be handed to you: "You have to be prepared to sacrifice. I failed a number of times here before figuring it out. This job is not for someone who needs a lot of structure."

HOW HE GOT THIS JOB: Horn claims it was a "stroke of dumb

cruiter, managing his volunteers over Google Chat. By November 2009, he moved over to Dreams for Kids full time.

HOW YOU CAN GET THIS JOB:

If there's one thing a nonprofit loves, it's free help. "If you really believe in an organization, then call them and simply ask them and ask how you can be of the most use," Horn says. "The best way to volunteer is to take ownership of a project that is relevant to your profession." To start your own nonprofit, you need a certificate of authority to operate a new business within D.C., Virginia and Maryland (see Certificateofauthority.org for more information). ROBYN MINCHER

Passion Meets Pragmatism

'What's Next' offers advice about how to responsibly pursue your dream career

Q&A

A police officer turned music agent. A Navy captain who became a circus manager. A botanist who traded plants for making chocolate. Those are a few stories of major career changes from the baby boomers and retirees Kerry Hannon interviewed for her new book, "What's Next: Follow Your Passion and Find Your Dream Job" (\$23, Chronicle Books). Their tales from the trench-

es are a rich source of advice and tips for anyone contemplating a serious job switch. We spoke with Hannon, a personal finance contributing editor and retirement correspondent for U.S. News and World Report, about how to prepare for and what to expect from an extreme career makeover.

Why don't we all pursue our dream jobs from the get-go?

I think what happens is people come out of school and they're really on this money track in many ways. Often your first job is very practical. And I think, at that point, you get stuck. You're kind of moving along, and it's hard to put the



Kerry Hannon advocates following your bliss but staying informed along the way.

pause button on and think about, "Is this really what I want to be doing?" When you get out of school and have tuition bills, it's really hard to say that, "I'm just going to do this because it's my passion," when management consulting is paying bigger money.

What can younger workers learn from the baby boomers and retirees profiled in your book?

As you go through your working life, you're gathering up skills. You're gathering up things that you will take along with you in your little kit to your next career or next job. There is no job that is not beneficial to you. Maybe you have to do something initially when you get out of school to pay back your tuition bills; maybe you

Continued on page E8

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Follow Your Bliss

Continued from page E7

have to compromise. There's nothing wrong with that. But keep an eye on what skills you're developing, so, when you're ready to move forward with something you're passionate about, you have great technical skills, good people skills, good marketing skills. No job is wasted.

What are some key things to do before contemplating a career switch?

The most important thing you can do for yourself and give yourself the most opportunity to be a success, is to get your personal finances in order. Pare down your debt or get out of debt, downsize if possible or whatever it is you need to do to try

to trim back your living expenses. If you're going to make a career change, regardless of the stage of life you're in, you're probably going to take a cut in pay, at least initially. If you have an idea of what you want to do, this is a great time to reach out to people, to volunteer, to moonlight to get a sense of what these jobs absolutely entail.

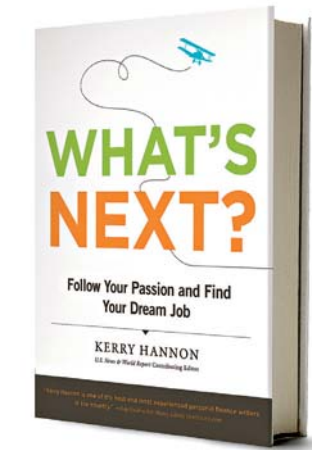
How can test-driving your dream job through something like an internship or volunteering be helpful?

I think there's always this romance that the grass is greener on the other side. You might say, "I've always wanted to open a bed-and-breakfast; wouldn't that be fantastic?" Then you get there and start doing the job and it's hard work. Often, the people that I interviewed who are successful are working lon-

ger hours than they ever did in their other jobs, but they love it. It's not that this is a panacea for the work world. You're still working, so it's important to understand what the job is going to entail.

Why are mentors so vital?

If you can find someone you trust to have your back, so to speak, they can give you the sort of feedback and advice that your friends can't necessarily give you. They know the field, and they, hopefully, learn to know you and your skills, and can give you their unbiased opinion and advice. They can tell you what the job entails or what lies ahead in a way that no one else can do. Those relationships are critical, but they're not that easy to build. You have to work at them a little bit. Start by asking them for



some simple help; start small. And always say thank you.

What are some of the benefits of having a career you're truly passionate about? Are there any drawbacks people tend to be

unaware of?

The sense that when you get up in the morning you really look forward to your day — that's the primary benefit of doing something you love. The drawbacks are that you may not be as financially secure as you were before, you may end up working longer hours, and you're taking a risk. I think it can be a little scary for people; it really takes a lot of determination and confidence to move forward.

What surprised you about the career changers you interviewed?

No one second-guessed themselves; they had complete confidence. You have to believe in what you're going to do. There are going to be setbacks. You just have to be prepared and know that it's going to take some effort. BETH LUBERECKI

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Natasha Dasher, who hopes to open Uniontown Bar & Grill in July, chose Anacostia because she wanted “to go into a neighborhood where I could exceed all the expectations.”

Cornering the Market

A new restaurant will rule Anacostia’s dining scene — at least for a little while

Entrepreneurship

Natasha Dasher is a third-generation Washingtonian who, as the daughter of a former city housing administrator, knows her way around town. So, when she left her corporate marketing job in Houston last year to return home and start a restaurant, she knew which areas to consider before she began talking to brokers and landlords.

She chose Anacostia. In July, if permitting and construction continue as planned, Dasher will open the Uniontown Bar & Grill, a 1,500-square-foot spot for sandwiches, salads and cocktails that she thinks will thrive

in a neighborhood where there are few dining options that don’t rely on a vat of grease and takeout plastic foam containers.

That the restaurant would be the first sit-down place to get a bite and a beer after work in one of the city’s poorer neighborhoods is not lost on Dasher, who grew up in Southwest. It will offer antibiotic-free meats and fresh juices as mixers. The name — Uniontown — is what the neighborhood was called when it was first developed as a whites-only suburb in the 1850s. “I have the ability to change the nature and tone of a neighborhood,” she said.

But that doesn’t necessarily make it good business. Signing a 10-year lease in Anacostia, a neighborhood that many Washingtonians and visitors — often unfairly — associate mostly with poverty and violence seems like a head-scratcher when there are



Natasha Dasher’s Uniontown eatery has no competitors within a six-mile radius.

vacancies with reduced rents being offered in wealthier parts of town. Others have tried — but failed — to open here; planners of a restaurant and lounge, a jazz club and a barbecue joint all pledged to open in the neighborhood in recent years and failed.

Greta Fuller, an advisory neighborhood commissioner in the area,

said the idea is “more than welcome and is long overdue.”

“People have made claims before, and I haven’t seen anything,” she said.

Dasher, who worked as a marketing manager for Houston-based Satterfield & Pontikes Construction before deciding to open Uniontown, considered space on 14th Street Northwest, near the new Target. But she isn’t alone among local, independent restaurateurs in settling on a location that many would consider less choice. The owners of Marvin, a popular U Street bistro and lounge, plan a new restaurant and bar on Georgia Avenue Northwest this fall. Michael Landrum, owner of Ray’s the Steaks in Arlington, opted to open his newest restaurant in Northeast D.C.

With the kind of competition in Columbia Heights, Dasher said, “you have to really be something

totally different to make a consumer or patron want to come to your business. And I don’t think that my concept was strong enough for that. So, I wanted to go into a neighborhood where I could exceed all the expectations.”

Ian Hilton, one of the Marvin owners, said he turned down space in brand-new buildings in favor of one that has been vacant and boarded up for years.

“I have the ability to change the nature and tone of a neighborhood.”

Unlike national chains, many of which have dramatically slowed or stalled expansion, he said he does not rely on a lot of demographic statistics to make choices about expansion. “You kind of do it more on instinct and kind of what you can see walking around the neighborhood with your eyes open,” he said.

Keith Sellars of the Washington, DC Economic Partnership, which attracts retailers to the city, said the reason for selecting out-of-the-way spots is customers in search of a unique retail experience. “The local mom-and-pop entrepreneurs — they’ve seen the signals, and they respond faster than the national retailers,” he said.

Dasher made a simple calculation in choosing the 101-year-old building at 2200 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE: There were no competitors in a six-mile radius. Plus, rent was \$15 less per square foot than in Columbia Heights, enough savings that she can hire an off-duty police officer to man the door at all times.

She said she would be coming to Southeast whether or not the U.S. Department of Homeland Security was building a massive campus nearby — but she is aware of the number of employees — 14,000 — who are expected to arrive. She said she expects most workers to go out for lunch once a week and that “right now, if they’re on this side of town, they have to come here.” JONATHAN O’CONNELL (THE WASHINGTON POST)

From Baby Sitter to Big Time

Peter Schechter's rich experiences led him to success

Profile

Communications consultant Peter Schechter has had a varied career.

One of his first jobs was working for an information-gathering company that planned to charge clients \$500,000 a year to subscribe to information. In 1993, he helped found Chlopak, Leonard, Schechter & Associates, an international strategic communications firm that serves clients including small companies, For-

tune 500 corporations and foreign governments. One client included the interim government of Honduras, which stirred controversy last year when it contracted with CLS to publicize last fall's election after staging a coup d'état.

He owns a goat farm in Virginia, is co-owner of Agur Winery in Israel, is a partner with celebrity chef Jose Andres in five of Washington's most prominent restaurants and has written two critically acclaimed novels. He speaks English, Spanish, Italian, French, Portuguese and German, and has traveled extensively, including 20 trips to Nigeria while working for the Social Democratic Party



Besides advising heads of state, Peter Schechter owns a goat farm and writes novels.

there and courting his wife, Rosa Peuch, during stopovers in Madrid. Schechter, 50, lives in Georgetown with Peuch, a World Bank education consultant, and daughters Alia, 13, and Marina, 11.

WHY HE'S SUCCESSFUL: He's always learning. "For me, my job is not enough. Diversity of interests, range of abilities to learn completely new things has always been my view of what success is all about. ... I'm really trying to catapult what I've been privileged to have, which is relationships with presidents and heads of state and being an adviser to very important people, but also to lay on a whole different set of things beyond my job and try to learn about many other aspects."

Continued on page E12

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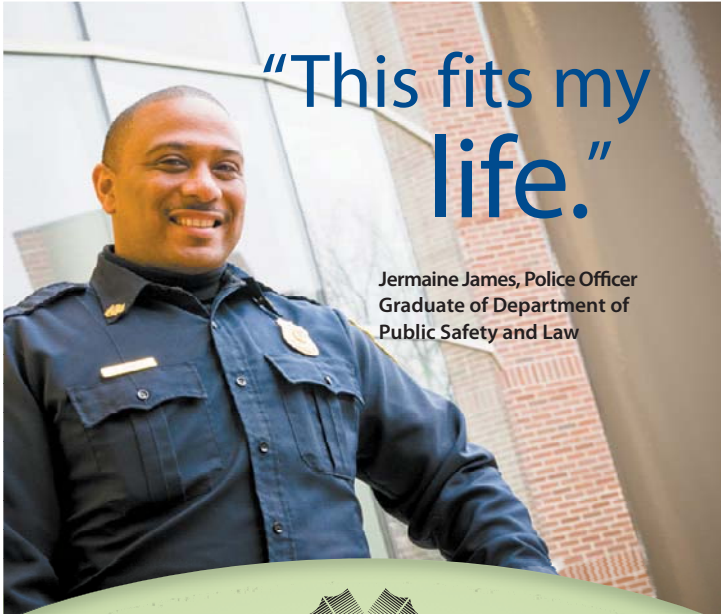
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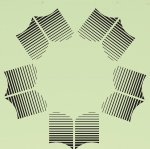
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The Big Time

Continued from page E11

FIRST JOB: "My first job was baby-sitting ... for a number of people in my building where I lived with my mom and dad, ... By sheer coincidence, all of the kids were little boys. I was the high school guy, and they all wanted me as their baby sitter rather than a girl. We would go down to the front yard and play soccer, then we would go upstairs and I would heat up the dinner that their moms had left."

BEST JOB: Schechter earned bachelor's and master's degrees in international relations at Johns Hopkins University. "After I graduated, I ... was hired by National Public Radio to co-produce a show called 'Understanding Western European Politics.' They sent me to four European capitals to interview politicians. ... I had a budget to invite four well-known and interesting people to restaurants. ... It doesn't get any better than that."

WORST JOB: Schechter quit his job at New York-based Sawyer Miller

Group, a political consulting firm, to work for presidential candidate H. Ross Perot. "Everybody gets one incredibly stupid move in a lifetime. I got mine in 1992 when I left my previous job ... along with [CLS partner] Charlie Leonard, and we both became deputy campaign managers for Ross Perot. I got picked up [at the airport] by some kid who took me to a furnished house on a golf course. He handed me some keys and said, 'And this is your car. I have to take a cab. Here's a map that will get you to the office.' That was on

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July 6. On July 17, we all resigned en masse.”

WHY HE QUIT THE CAMPAIGN: “If you think back to the 1992 Perot campaign, one of the things that was absolutely the most horrifying was the speech that he gave to the annual convention of the NAACP, in which he used words like ‘you all’ and ‘you people.’ Two days after I got to the office, we turned on the TV and learn the man we worked for was making this speech. None of us had any ... clue that he was considering doing this. ... It was 11 days of agony, and then it was over. It did allow me to be free to talk to Charlie and Bob [Chlopak] about joining forces to start the firm, so there was a silver lining in the incredibly silly move to go to Dallas.”

SMARTEST MOVE: After the Perot debacle, Schechter joined forces with Leonard and Chlopak, who had also worked at Sawyer, to form CLS. “To find out that I was good enough to give advice to people and they would pay for it and keep asking for more advice has been one of the most fulfilling things in my life. ... I have been privileged to be in the room where ... I got to see how men of great power actually make decisions ... men in politics and heads of state, but also men who run businesses, and their businesses were under great threat and the decisions they were making at that very moment could have revived or sunk their businesses.”

WHAT INSPIRES HIM: “Being able to take something I know nothing about and ... become knowledgeable



LINDA DAVIDSON/TWP

A brief stint on Ross Perot's campaign led to the founding of Peter Schechter's firm.

enough to hold my own in a conversation or to have an opinion on the subject. ... Also, to see my kids doing the same thing — picking up subjects they are interested in and getting into it with some level of detail — is a wonderful thing.”

WHAT'S NEXT: Traveling with his family to Tel Aviv so that he can help manage the winery, and a third novel. “I have a job that affords me a lot of good stories, so all I had to do was be a good storyteller.”

ADVICE TO THE ASPIRING: “First, quality is the most important thing ... being able to offer thoughtful, smart advice. ... The other is don't try to remain at a level that you are. Always strive to get to the next level.” AVIS THOMAS-LESTER (THE WASHINGTON POST)

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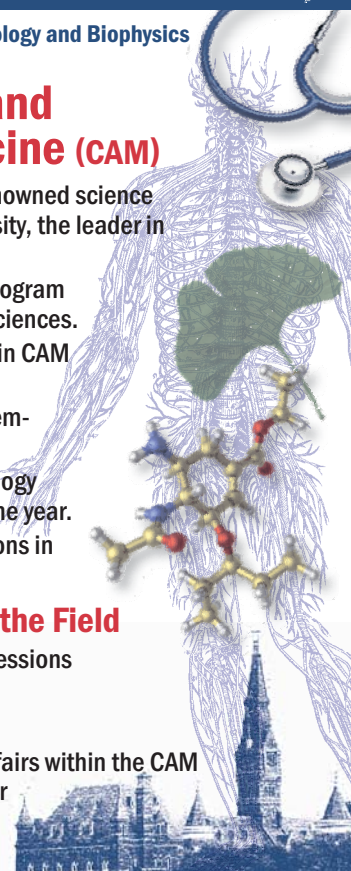
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Bob Gordon's spiritual journey started when his wife enrolled at Tai Sophia Institute. Soon, he was a student in the school's Creative Leadership certificate program.

A Fall Into Life Coaching

A blackout helped a Fed embrace his spiritual side and a true career calling

Bob Gordon has found exactly what he wants to do in life. Too bad it took several decades and a near-death experience to figure it out.

On and off for 32 years, the Silver Spring resident had been a Fed — first with the Department of Labor, then in consulting, then at Commerce, then Labor again. Most of his career was spent helping others advance: developing leaders, running a sabbatical program, teaching experts how to train employees.

Gordon enjoyed this work, but the bureaucracy could be frustrating. “I preferred to talk with indi-

viduals about the meaning of life and help them get along with one another,” he says. “I just didn’t think I could make a living at it.”

Then a few things happened. First, his wife, Robyn, enrolled in a master’s program at Tai Sophia Institute, a school in Laurel that teaches healing arts, broadly interpreted to cover everything from acupuncture and Chinese herbs to inciting business and life changes. Its best-known guest lecturers include alternative physicians Andrew Weil and Deepak Chopra. “My woo-woo tolerance is low, so I was skeptical,” Gordon says wryly, “but I was impressed by her new calm and loving equanimity.”

The way the students helped one another discover their callings, spiritually and vocationally, impressed him, too — enough

so that in 2005 he enrolled in the school’s Creative Leadership certificate program. The guy who pushed paper and handled groups found himself in a course where classmates told him he was funny and thoughtful, and great one on one.

The nine-month program, now called Transformative Leadership (Tai. edu/GCTransLeader.aspx; 410-888-9048), aims, as the school puts it, to “create constructive change” in the community, the workplace and the self. Students practice conflict resolution, persuasion, collaboration and ways to move new ideas from thought to action.

“The Transformative Leadership program awakens students to the power of language and their

personal presence as they develop effective leadership skills and approaches,” said interim director Cheryl Walker. Classes are offered in executive format — Friday evenings and all weekend — so students can keep their day jobs; tuition is about \$8,000.

The second thing that changed Gordon’s life was a fall. Talking with his wife about feeling stuck at work, he said, “I wonder what I’d do if I weren’t living out of fear?” — and promptly passed out, falling backward and hitting his head on the stairs. Doctors diagnosed a seizure but couldn’t find a cause.

Gordon took his blackout as a wake-up call to live “a more authentic life.” Less than a year after finishing his certificate, he

left government, intending to help others find their authentic selves, too, through whatever opportunity presented itself first. When someone who had trained him in volunteer grief counseling years before asked him to take on a few patients of his own, he did — for free — and discovered “I’m meant to work with people on their deepest issues.”

Three years ago Gordon began selling his services as a life coach,

“My woo-woo tolerance is low, so I was skeptical. But I was impressed by [my wife’s] new calm and loving equanimity.”

meeting clients in cafes, then at Takoma Park’s Still Point day spa, then at the Pastoral Counseling & Consultation Centers of Greater Washington. “Instead of effecting a modest amount of change on many people, I can now effect deep change on one or a couple,” he explains.

According to the International Coach Federation, life coaches charge an average of \$136 an hour. Though annual income from life coaching averages \$24,539, that figure includes part-timers; also, career and executive coaches make more. The real payoff may be in personal terms, such as when Gordon worked for eight months with a man facing a life-threatening illness. “With someone to listen and facilitate his growth,” he says, “he recovered a love of life and renewed old relationships.”

Gordon was so moved by his Tai Sophia and coaching experiences that he made even more changes: He continued at Tai Sophia to earn a master’s degree, and in 2008 he enrolled at Loyola University Maryland to become a licensed professional counselor. When he completes that training, he’ll be able to treat a wider range of illnesses and may make more, but even before that, “Tai Sophia led me to the right path.” ELLEN RYAN

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Capitol Hill—St Peters Yard Sale, Kids Fun Fair,
Capitol South Metro, 313 2nd St SE, Washington,
DC, 5/15, 8a-1p; BEST ON THE HILL, Donate 202-
544-2016

Centreville—HUGE Community Yard Sale at Manor-
Gate (14300 Green Trails Blvd Centreville, VA) Sat.
May 15th 8a.m. until 12p.m. Stop by the clubhouse
for a list of all of the yard sales throughout the
neighborhood.

Chevy Chase—Sat 10am - 3pm. 3116 Rolling Road
off Conn and E-W Hwy. Follow signs. LR, DR, BR sets,
antiques, patio furniture, pictures, rugs, china, TVs.
301-674-6022.

Colvin's Glen—Neighborhood Yard Sale - May 15,
8:00-12:00 Rain date 5/16 Delta Glen or Colvin
Forest at Rt. 7E, Vienna, 22182

Sterling—46891 Antioch Pl, Sterling, VA, May 15,
7 am-12, 571-434-0518 Jewelry, TVs, Furniture,
Electronics, Clothes, Toys & much more!

Vienna—Community Yard Sale 5/15 8-1pm Wolf-
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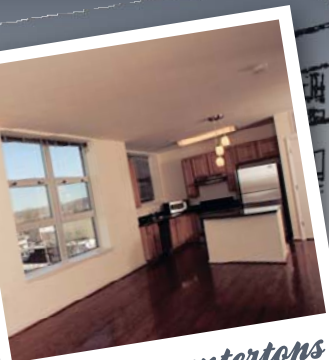
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Booze Clues

The Plush Option

I really love that while everyone has been oohing and ahing over D.C.'s new status as a food town, our nation's capital has quietly become a cocktail town as well. And it turns out that of all the celebrations Americans



By Fiona Zublin

create as excuses for boozing, one of the best starts right now — World Cocktail Week! Tonight, PS 7's (777 I St. NW) will host a dinner party that aims to bring together all the great bartenders of Washington: Adam Bernbach, the Brown brothers, Chantal Tseng, Gina Chersevani, etc., etc. Isn't it great that we have enough celebrity mixologists here to do this without importing people? Oh, and the drinks they dream up will be accompanied by a five-course dinner inspired by street food. Yes, it's \$125 for a ticket, but you get a lot of booze for your buck. And this way you won't feel bad about those dinner rolls you stuff in your purse. Call 202-742-8550 to reserve a spot.

Fighting for Free-dom

In penance for just offering you an incredibly expensive option in a space that's supposed to tell you where to drink cheap, here are some ideas on the opposite end of the spectrum: At Radius (3155 Mount Pleasant St.) on Wednesday nights, ordering a large pizza or two entrees and an appetizer gets you a free bottle of wine; Banana Cafe (500 8th St. SE) offers free hors d'oeuvres every day starting at 5 p.m. until they run out; and La Tasca (722 7th St. NW) puts out a huge dish of complimentary paella on Fridays at 4 p.m.



The National's latest album, "High Violet," journeys from despair to hope via moody melodies, rich instrumentals and expressive (if at times a tad melodramatic) lyrics.

Color Them Elaborate

The National's new album, 'High Violet,' relies on complexity and lyrical drama

CD Review

The National's music may be downhearted at times, but its career is certainly on the upswing.

Based in Brooklyn, the group is composed of Matt Berninger and two pairs of brothers: Aaron and Bryce Dessner (both guitarists, with Aaron also playing piano), and Bryan and Scott Devendorf (on bass and drums, respectively). The success of the band's slow-burning album "Boxer," which made just about everyone's best-of-2007 lists, has upped the hype for its new release, "High Violet."

Berninger has been tweaking

"High Violet" eventually digs itself out of its own ponderous hole ... easing into a gentler, more hopeful place.

the sound of his complex songs with each album, and "High Violet" is a collection of probably the most elaborate tracks yet, works of tangled moodiness consistently elevated with stirring crescendos punctuated by muted percussion and even deep woodwinds.

Berninger's baritone delivery is utterly sincere, even if his lyrics verge on the overly dramatic. Whether it's a cry of lovesickness or just an expression of anxiety, "High Violet" covers the emotional landscape from fear ("With my kid on my shoulders I try/Not to hurt anybody I like," he sings in "Afraid of Everyone") to out-



High Violet
The National

right misery ("Sorrow found me when I was young/Sorrow waited, sorrow won" begins the second track — you guessed it — "Sorrow").

But the album doesn't just lie prostrate, basking in its own despair. It's also about the journey of recovery, learning to hold on and resisting the fear: "Terrible Love" talks of "walking with spiders" but promises "I won't fol-

low you into the rabbit hole" even though "it takes an ocean not to break." Some of the best moments are the tenderest: Later songs are softer around the edges, and "England" hits some of the greatest heights on the album with its swelling horns.

"High Violet" ends up working because it eventually digs itself out of its own ponderous hole, relieving the pressure of the first songs' apprehension and easing into a gentler, more hopeful place. "We're desperate to entertain," they sing on "England."

Really, guys, desperation isn't necessary — just be yourselves.

AFTON LORRAINE WOODWARD

● **DAR Constitution Hall, 1776 D St. NW; with the Antlers, June 6, 8 p.m., \$33.50; 202-628-4780.** (Farragut West)



Weekend Box Office

Iron Man 2
\$133.6M

A Nightmare On Elm Street
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How to Train Your Dragon
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Date Night
\$5.3M

The Back-Up Plan
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Furry Vengeance
\$4M

Clash of The Titans
\$2.3M

Death at A Funeral
\$2.1M

The Losers
\$1.8M

Babies
\$1.6M



top
stops

1 Strip Down
If running around downtown D.C. in your underwear (a) sounds like fun and (b) will not get you fired and/or black-listed, we're going to peer-pressure you to try the Lululemon Undie Run. Just remember to wear cute patterned underwear and pay no heed to hecklers. After the run and some quick stretching, the crowd will head to Church Key for noshing and beer. F.Z. Lululemon, 1461 P St. NW; 6:30-8 p.m., free; 202-518-4075, Lululemon.com. (Dupont Circle)

2 Rules Of Three
Neil LaBute is known for dark, depressing plays, and "Bash" is no exception — it's a collection of three works, one based on the downer Greek myth of Iphigenia, one on the story of Medea (also downer, Greek, mythic) and one with an original plot. Catch the last performance tonight. F.Z. Clarice Smith Center, University of Maryland, College Park; 7:30 p.m., \$10; 301-405-2787, Claricesmithcenter.umd.edu. (College Park)

3 Going Undercover
Let us return to the days of yore, when the biggest threat to our national security was Cuba and we were all terrified of communist collectives. "Our Man in Havana" is a 1950s film wherein a guy played by Alec Guinness becomes a spy for hire. There will be a discussion after the movie with an ex-CIA officer. F.Z. International Spy Museum, 800 F St. NW; 6:30 p.m., \$6.25; 202-393-7798, Spymuseum.org. (Gallery Place)



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XX170265

Wisdom of an 'It' Girl

Kristin Cavallari chats about being, like, really popular

Q&A

Those familiar with reality star Kristin Cavallari know that she's brutally honest and doesn't sugar-coat her feelings. That's probably contributed to an unflattering label she's had since starring on MTV's "Laguna Beach."

Cavallari, who's now on MTV's "The Hills," talked in a recent interview about being honest, tabloid stories about drug use and proving herself as an actress.

You became famous on MTV's "Laguna Beach" when you were in high school. What have you learned about fame?

It can be kind of lonely sometimes.

Did you talk to Lauren Conrad before replacing her on "The Hills"? (Cavallari's first scene was showing up at the wedding of the series' duo, Heidi Montag and Spencer Pratt.)

No, I wasn't allowed to tell anyone I was coming to the wedding.

And then you walked into the church by yourself and everyone looked surprised. Was that real? I was so nervous walking into the church! I didn't know how everyone was gonna react. It ended up being OK. Even though you didn't see it on



Kristin Cavallari has recently been dogged by tabloid-fueled rumors of drug use.

"I mean, I think it's funny, you know; it's a TV show, and I want to have fun with it. And it's fun to play it up for the cameras, too."

camera, Lauren and I actually walked out of the church arm and arm.

What did you think about MTV's ads when you joined "The Hills"? Are you OK with your reputation?

I'm definitely very honest. I go after what I want. MTV asked me if they could do "the bitch is back" slogan and I said, "Of course." I mean, I think it's funny, you know; it's a TV show, and I want to have fun with it. And it's fun to play it up for the cameras, too.

The new episodes of "The Hills" address a tabloid report that you were using drugs, which you've denied. What was that like?

It was very, very difficult. The thing is, it's one thing if it's just on the show; you know, fine, I understand the show needs drama and that's what it's about. But when it's in tabloids and it's starting to affect my personal life, it's not cool. But at the same time, I feel like it was so stupid.

When you're auditioning for acting roles, do you feel you have more to prove because you come from a reality TV background?

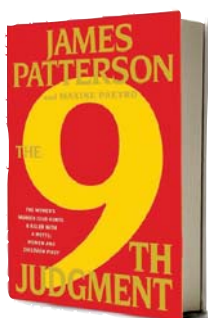
I definitely feel like I have to prove myself 10 times more. Everyone assumes because I'm on a reality show I can't act. Which is fine. It's just another battle I have to fight.

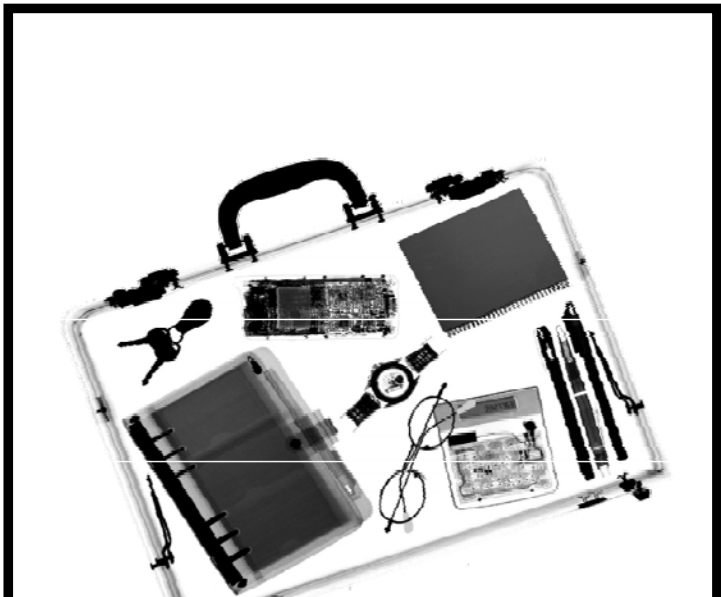
ALICIA RANCILIO (AP)

Top Hardcover

1. The 9th Judgment, by James Patterson and Maxine Paetro

2. Lover Mine: A Novel of the Black Dagger Brotherhood by J.R. Ward **3. Deliver Us From Evil** by David Baldacci **4. The Help** by Kathryn Stockett **5. Hannah's List** by Debbie Macomber **6. The Shadow of Your Smile** by Mary Higgins Clark **7. This Body of Death: An Inspector Lynley Novel** by Elizabeth George **8. The Double Comfort Safari Club** by Alexander McCall Smith **9. Every Last One: A Novel** by Anna Quindlen **10. Lucid Intervals** by Stuart Woods (PUBLISHERS WEEKLY)





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lookout TV tonight

The Dangerous Game

PBS takes a look
at America's early
whaling practices

History

PBS 9:00 "American Experience" turns its contemplative gaze toward America's first oil industry. Directed by Ric Burns, "Into the Deep, America, Whaling & the World" explores how the hunt for giant ocean leviathans put an indelible stamp on the national character and inspired "Moby Dick," one of the greatest works of American literature.

We're reminded repeatedly of just how dirty, dangerous and adventurous whaling could be. It wasn't enough for whalers to sail to the ends of the chartered globe. Once the whales were sighted, they had to pursue their prey in small boats and then hurl heavyweight harpoons into the sides of the largest creatures who ever lived. After a remarkably gruesome battle —



A 19th-century depiction captures the terror on both sides: man and whale.

sometimes lasting hours or days — they had to row and tow the dead creature back to the whaling vessel, where it was methodically skinned and rendered in a stench-belching floating factory. This documentary could just as well have been titled "There Will Be Blood."

With "Into the Deep," Burns

has found an enormous canvas. Like "Moby Dick" itself, this film covers one subject while touching on an encyclopedia's worth of contributing ideas, from poetry and science to religion, geography, biography and history. And like "Moby Dick," it can sometimes seem very long. KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

Best Bets

CW 9:00 **Gossip Girl** Tension builds between Rufus and Will, with Serena standing behind her father. Jenny shares information with Will that could destroy Rufus and Lily's marriage. Chuck makes one last grand gesture in hopes of winning Blair back.

CBS 9:30 **The Big Bang Theory** The awesome Judy Greer ("Arrested Development") guest-stars as a famous physicist who has Sheldon and Leonard rabidly competing for her attention in the new episode "The Plimpton Stimulation."



VH1 10:00 **Undateable** Who knew that broken furniture, the absence of curtains or a too-saggy couch were turn-offs to the ladies? This five-night series will count down the mistakes that keep men single.

BRAVO 10:00



The Real Housewives of New Jersey Jacqueline, left, and Ashley butt heads over the latter's behavior. Teresa's and Danielle's daughters are invited to model during New York Fashion Week. Danielle tries to make peace with her former friends to celebrate Christine's success. (TRIBUNE MEDIA/K.M.)

Talk Shows



Kings of Rock

Over the course of the week, "Late Night With Jimmy Fallon" (12:35 a.m., NBC) will shine a light on the music of the Rolling Stones, who will be re-releasing a more complete version of their 1972 album "Exile on Main Street" on Friday. Look for tributes from Green Day, Keith Urban, Sheryl Crow, Phish and others. K.M.

B.I.O.

BY INVITATION ONLY: UPCOMING WEDDINGS & UNIONS



Stephen Walrath, Heather Warren

Stephen, 27, is an aerospace engineer. Heather, 26, is a congressional staffer and a writer. They live in Alexandria.

■ **The Main Event:** On June 4, they'll marry in Heather's hometown church in Thousand Oaks, Calif. Their colors are grape, white and silver to celebrate their love of wine. Bartenders will serve a signature sangria at the reception.

■ **How They Met:** Stephen had just moved from California to D.C., "and a mutual friend of ours suggested Heather give the new guy in town a tour of the Capitol and some of the sights."

- **First Date:** Dinner at TenPenh.
- **How He Proposed:** When the cherry blossoms were nixed because of awful traffic, he proposed at home with her favorite cake and a bottle of champagne he'd been saving.
- **Stupidest Fight:** Five Guys versus In-N-Out Burger.
- **Wedding Jitters:** Because they'll be taking photos outside, Heather worries "I'll look like a lobster by the time the ceremony even begins. Bring on the SPF 80!"

"I created a CAD model of the cake so Heather and I could play ... with different designs."

- **Mmm, Cake:** "Being the overly technical engineer that I am, I created a CAD model of the cake so Heather and I could play around with different designs and visualize how they would look on the different tiers," Stephen says. "Yes, it's overkill, but it was fun."



IMANI RUTLEDGE PHOTOGRAPHY

U + Me = Love

A simple equation brought Chris Olson and Acasia Barrett together: "Friends + feelings = couple," Olson says. They met in an internship program in Atlanta but didn't talk much until a chance meeting at the library led to sparks. Though they went their separate ways after the program, Acasia recalls "telling my mom that Chris was someone I could see myself marrying."

They began dating long-distance and realized the relationship was the real thing: When Chris applied to grad schools, he gave up a full ride to Emory in favor of Johns Hopkins so they could be closer. On their 11-month anniversary, Chris proposed in GWU's Kogan Plaza with a long poem he'd penned.

Chris, 23, is an environmental health and safety intern. Acasia, 24, is a research assistant in HIV/AIDS prevention. They will live in Rockville and are marrying May 30.



Ryan Leischner, Melissa Masino

Ryan, 34, is a lieutenant in the Arlington County Fire Department. Melissa, 33, is a school counselor. She lives in Alexandria; he lives in Centreville.

- **The Main Event:** They're getting hitched in a Catholic church in Arlington on July 17. Native Long Islander Melissa picked out a Billy Joel song — "Just the Way You Are" — for their first dance.

■ **How They Met:** At Murphy's Irish Pub in Old Town Alexandria.

■ **First Impressions:** "She had some words to say about my car — she didn't understand why it had a spoiler."

■ **First Date:** Dinner and a play.

■ **How He Proposed:** While vacationing in Cape Cod, he put the ring — made with a stone from Melissa's great-grandmother's engagement ring — on the table during dinner.

■ **Wedding Jitters:** A bridesmaid's baby is due the week after the wedding, "and she might go into labor at the ceremony," Melissa says.



» Weddings Wanted

Have a wedding or commitment ceremony in June or July? If you submit now, you won't have to wait to be featured. And don't worry if your wedding is even later — that's fine! Just send an e-mail to weddings@readexpress.com with your favorite informal photograph, your names and your ceremony date to get the ball rolling.

Poll Center

Today's Question

SHOULD IT BE A CRIME TO WEAR OR CLAIM UNEARNED MILITARY DECORATIONS?

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Friday's Results

SHOULD POLICE BE REQUIRED TO INFORM THE UNIVERSITY IF A STUDENT IS ARRESTED?



"An arrest is not the same as actually being charged with something. Schools should only be notified if charges are actually filed."

COMMENTER NOT A FAN

"The bottom line is that the vast majority of college students are legally adults. I find it very hard to justify any additional action taken, such as notifying a third party, that would not be taken for a non-student of the same age."

COMMENTER BFS

SEE HOW YOUR METRO STATION VOTED AT WWW.EXPRESSNIGHTOUT.COM



"Congrats, Internet! We did it! The Betty White episode is in the books, and seeing her grace the Studio 8H stage was a delight."

— HUFFINGTONPOST.COM WAS HAPPY TO SEE THE LONGTIME TELEVISION STAR HOST "SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE" ON NBC OVER THE WEEKEND.



"There is no way Kobe Bryant didn't know that he would catch hell for these suspect pics, but he probably never thought that they would make it to the workplace."

— BOSSIP.COM THOUGHT THAT RECENT PHOTOS OF THE LAKERS STAR FROM A FASHION SHOOT WERE RATHER RIDICULOUS.



"I have to admit that it is a surprising but pleasing sight to see Defense Secretary Robert Gates quoting Eisenhower and talking about cutting the military budget. It helps that Gates has traditionally served in Republican administrations and can't be painted as some kind of peacenik."

— BOOMANTRIBUNE.COM THOUGHT GATES' RECENT COMMENTS SOUNDED QUITE LIBERAL.



"GOOD RIDDANCE. When I was 5 years old in the late 1960s, the phone book made a great high chair. Now, calling it a door stop is being generous. I haven't used a phone book in a good 10 years."

— AMERICABLOG.COM IS GLAD TO HEAR THAT VERIZON HAS ASKED REGULATORS TO ALLOW IT TO END WHITE PAGES DELIVERY IN NEW YORK.

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puzzles lookout

Horoscope

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Even the slightest misstep is likely to have far-reaching effects, but you can make all necessary change once you realize what has been done.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) It's important to surround yourself with people and things that relax, inspire and enable you to work to your potential.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You're in the mood for a little luxury. It needn't be permanent, so a brief splurge may serve to satisfy your craving.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You may want to try one or two new cures for what is ailing you. Once you're on the road to recovery, improvement is permanent.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Don't turn your back on anyone; be willing to step up and help when help is required. Rewards will come your way soon.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Even when someone asks for your honest opinion, you'll want to keep things civil; avoid becoming too critical.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You can expect your luck to change very soon. If you're riding high, get what you can while you can. If not, be ready for some improvement.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) It's important for you to understand those with whom you're working very closely. You're good at playing the psychology game.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You'll be more attuned to the rhythms that work their magic around you. You'll want to avoid anything that disrupts the flow.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Take time to breathe and assess what lies ahead. Anticipation allows you to prepare both mind and body for what is coming.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) You've been relying heavily on technological assistance lately. What happens if that technology fails? Have a back-up plan.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You're likely to be faced with a choice before the day is out. It's likely to be more difficult than you had expected. Get some advice.

Scrabble Grams

PAR SCORE 150-160, BEST SCORE 213

E ₁	O ₁	U ₁	W ₄	L ₁	P ₃	L ₁

--

 RACK 1

E ₁	U ₁	R ₁	R ₁	K ₅	S ₁	B ₃

Double Word Score

--

 RACK 2

E ₁	E ₁	O ₁	D ₂	M ₃	F ₄	R ₁

2nd Letter Triple

--

 RACK 3

I ₁	O ₁	U ₁	S ₁	N ₁	B ₃	M ₃

--

 RACK 4

Friday's Solution

S ₁	E ₁	X ₈	I ₁	S ₁	M ₃		RACK 1 =	15
C ₂	H ₄	I ₁	C ₂	K ₅	E ₁	N ₁	RACK 2 =	104
G ₂	R ₁	O ₁	U ₁	C ₂	H ₄	Y ₄	RACK 3 =	66
B ₃	I ₁	O ₁	G ₂	E ₁	N ₁	Y ₄	RACK 4 =	66
PAR SCORE 160-170								TOTAL 251

FOUR RACK TOTAL

Make a 2-7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get a 50-point bonus. Blank tiles used as any letter have no point value. Scrabble is a trademark of Hasbro in the U.S. and Canada.

Sudoku

EASY

1	5			8			3	6
	3			9		5		7
		9					2	
7			2		6			9
	9						6	
5			1		3			2
		7				1		
	2		7		9		8	
8	1			4			9	7

Friday's Solution

7	4	8	3	5	6	2	1	9
2	1	5	4	7	9	3	8	6
3	6	9	1	2	8	4	7	5
6	5	7	9	8	3	1	2	4
9	2	3	5	4	1	8	6	7
1	8	4	7	6	2	9	5	3
5	9	1	2	3	7	6	4	8
8	7	2	6	9	4	5	3	1
4	3	6	8	1	5	7	9	2

Need more Sudoku? Find another puzzle in the Comics section of The Post every Sunday and in the Style section Monday through Saturday.

© PUZZLES BY PAPPOCOM

Comics

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POOCH CAFE | PAUL GILLIGAN



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE | STEPHAN PASTIS



Forecast

66 | 49

Today: Mostly sunny today. Mainly clear tonight.

62 | 57

Tomorrow: A shower tomorrow. Rain and drizzle tomorrow night, then a shower.

Looking Ahead

WED	THU	FRI
81 59	72 60	74 60

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today: 6:01 a.m.
Sunset today: 8:09 p.m.
Moonrise today: 3:46 a.m.
Moonset today: 5:02 p.m.

Almanac

Normal high: 73
Record high: 96
Normal low: 54
Record low: 34

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lookout puzzles

Crossword

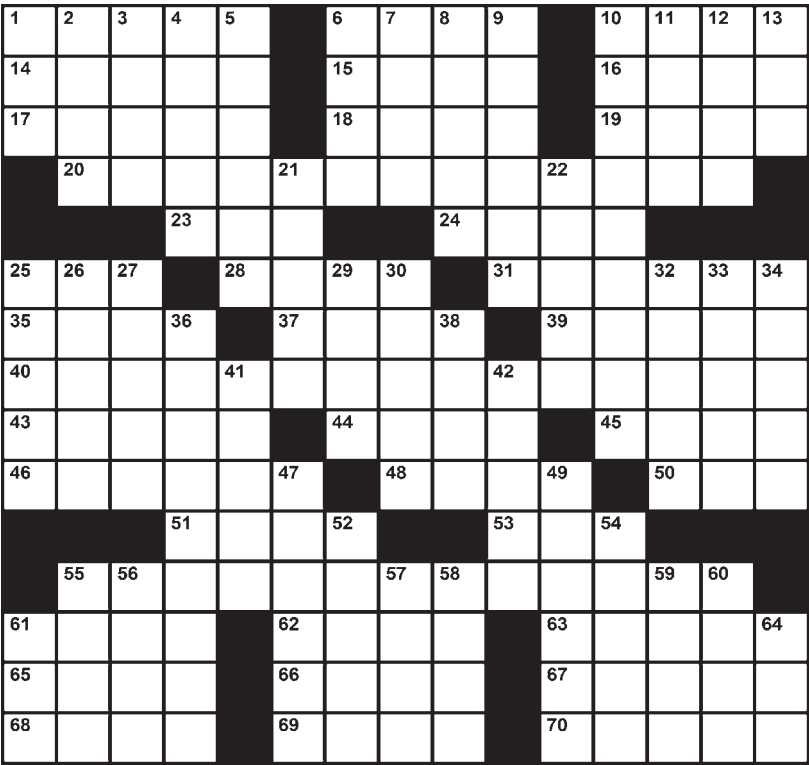
IN THE SOLVING MOOD

ACROSS

- 1 Jolly Roger feature
6 Use the delete key, e.g.
10 Hillside, in Aberdeen
14 Pertaining to bees
15 Word shouted by soccer announcers
16 Parts of window treatments
17 Group of geniuses
18 Shepherd in the Psalm 23
19 Elisha of elevators
20 Nab
23 Travel down a mountain, in a way
24 Shore thing
25 Chitter-chatter
28 Suddenly go nuts
31 Type of powder
35 Thermometer type
37 "Say Say Say," say
39 Tree-dwelling carnivore
40 Give up
43 Ankle bones
44 Very upset (with "off")
45 ___ mortals
46 Kin of "as you were"
48 Equestrian's control
50 Prefix with "respect"
51 One response to "Want to?"
53 Black or green drink
55 One-hit wonder
61 Proper partner?
62 Think tank output
63 Got the wet out
65 Piece of French bread?
66 Show appreciation at a performance
67 Unsociable sort
68 Memorable time periods
69 Moisture-free
70 Log item

DOWN

- 1 It's a hit in the comics
2 Crude cartel?
3 Name hidden in Al Hirschfeld drawings
4 Some bridge seats
5 Spoils supper, in a way
6 Less-than-cute fruit?
7 Gunfight time, in several films
8 Game with a board
9 Passe
10 Type of carpet
11 High school mil. group
12 Collier's portal
13 Capital of Switzerland?
21 Official language of India
22 Pass, as a bill
25 Must, informally
26 Enlightened Buddhist

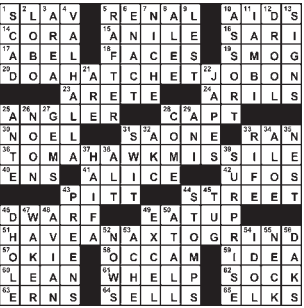


EDITED BY TIMOTHY E. PARKER

- 27 Wilkes-____, Pa.
29 Polly, to Tom Sawyer
30 Noted pumpkin eater
32 Imitated a crow
33 Development sites
34 Odometer units
36 Manhattan Project site
38 "America" pronoun
41 Smartens (up)
42 She sang "Those Were the Days"
47 Set of values
49 Thread partner
52 Proceed furtively
54 Chef's garment
55 Dance of the 1960s
56 Old Italian money
57 Close to

- 58 Gift wrapper's need
59 Is not ungrammatical?
60 At no time, to bards
61 Certain brain size?
64 Describing some wines

Friday's Solution



Today in History

1869 A golden spike is driven at Promontory, Utah, marking the completion of the first transcontinental railroad in the United States.

1994 Former president George H.W. Bush's office releases his letter of resignation from the National Rifle Association in which Bush expresses outrage over its reference to federal agents as "jack-booted government thugs."

express



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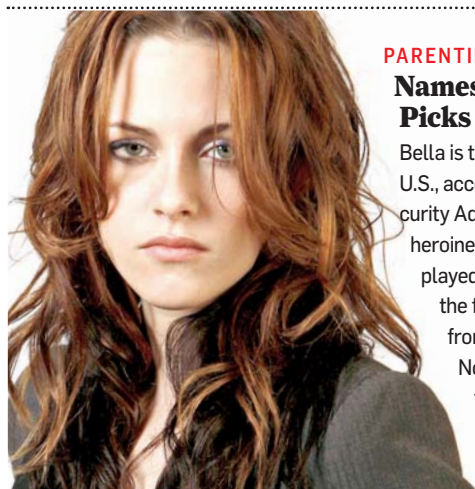
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**MISQUOTED****Dog Actually Oblivious**

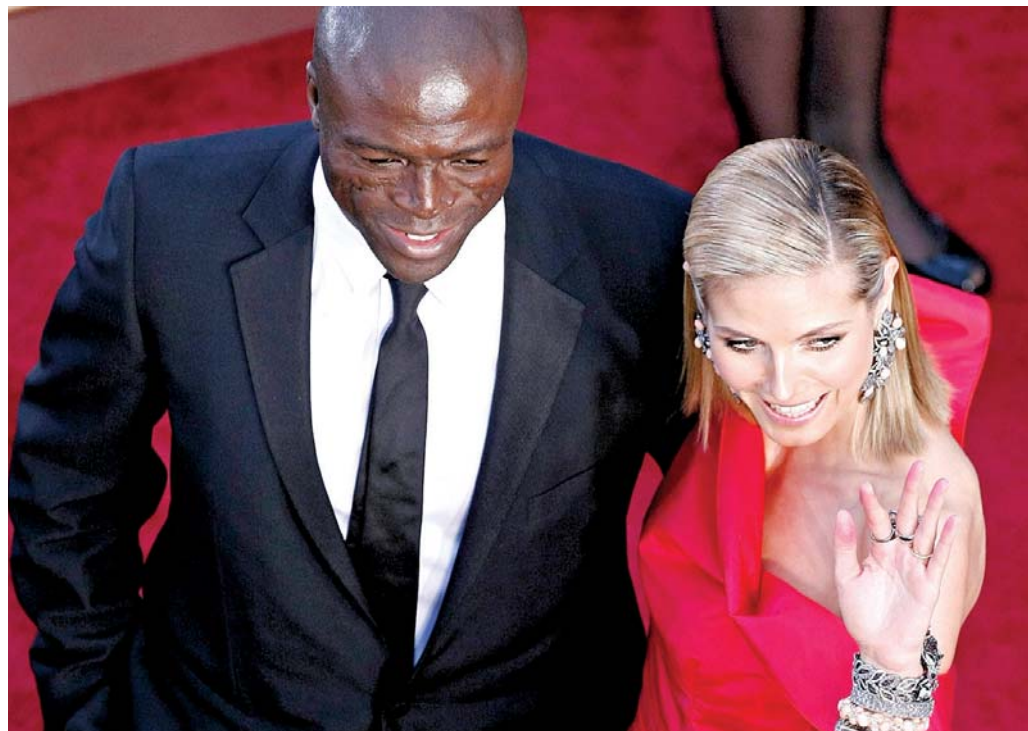
"Real Housewives of New York" star Bethenny Frankel and husband Jason Hoppy greeted a baby girl Saturday, Frankel's rep told People.com. "Bethenny and Jason are proud to welcome their new baby girl, Bryn Hoppy, born at 8 a.m. ... in New York City," the rep said. "She is a 4 lb. 12 oz., healthy baby. Bryn, mom, dad and [dog] Cookie are all very happy." (EXPRESS)

FORGOTTEN**Kilmer Touched That Anyone Cares**

San Miguel County commissioners want Val Kilmer to show up in the next 30 days to explain derogatory comments he's alleged to have made about northern New Mexico, where he lives. The controversy erupted after Kilmer's Pecos River Ranch sought to open guest houses to paying customers. Chairman David Salazar said the commissioners want Kilmer "to give us his point of view and tell us what he said or he didn't say." (AP)

**PARENTING****Names Already Top Picks Among Cat Ladies**

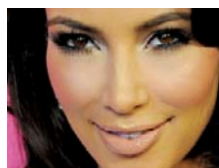
Bella is the No. 1 girl's name in the U.S., according to the Social Security Administration. (Bella is the heroine of the "Twilight" who is played by Kristen Stewart, left, in the films.) Jacob, also a name from "Twilight," remained at No. 1 for the 11th year. Cullen, the surname of "Twilight's" Edward, was the fastest-growing name for males. (EXPRESS)



ETHAN MILLER/GETTY IMAGES

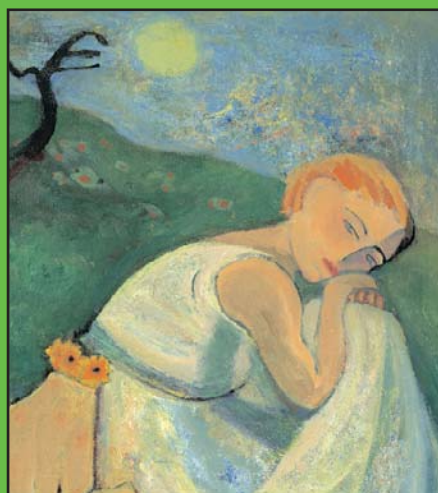
EVERYONE DOES**I Do, They Do, You Do**

Heidi Klum and Seal renewed their wedding vows in Costa Carey, Mexico, on Saturday to celebrate their fifth anniversary. The couple have renewed their vows each year of their marriage, with themes for each ceremony. This year's event had a wedding theme, a source told Usmagazine.com — guests dressed like brides and grooms — and a minister was on hand for others to renew their vows. Last year, the theme was "white trash," with Seal wearing a mullet wig and an Elvis impersonator officiating. (EXPRESS)



"For some reason, high-waisted jeans are always branded with this negative term, and I think it's kind of ridiculous."

— KIM KARDASHIAN RANTED ON HER BLOG ABOUT THE STIGMA ATTACHED TO "MOM JEANS."



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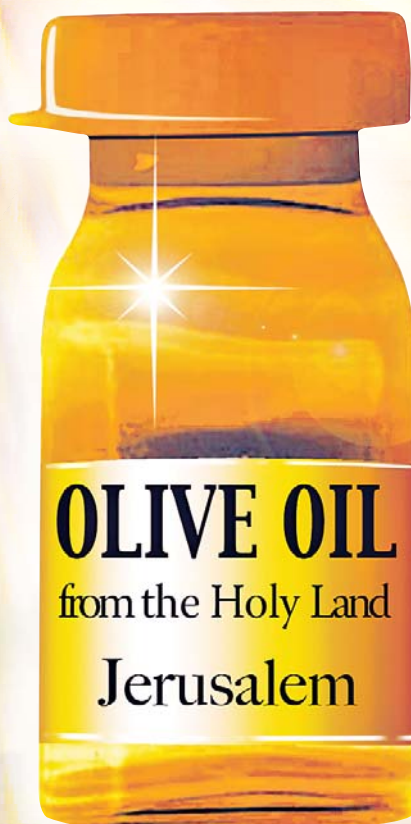
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at 11:30am & 5pm**



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